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REPORT

on the state of the

PUBLIC HEALTH

in the

URBAN DISTRICT OF BUSHEY
URBAN DISTRICT OF CHORLEYWOOD
URBAN DISTRICT OF RICKMANSWORTH
RURAL DISTRICT OF WATFORD


in the

COUNTY OF HERTFORD

WILLIAM NORMAN-TAYLOR, M.D., (Lond.), D.P.H., D.I.H., F.R.S.H.
Medical Officer of Health and Senior Assistant County Medical Officer

for the year

1966



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REPORT

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REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR 1966

To the Chairman and Members of:

the Urban District Council of Bushey,

the Urban District Council of Chorleywood,

the Urban District Council of Rickmansworth,

and

the Rural District Council of Watford

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report together with the Reports by the Chief Public Health Inspectors on their work in the Districts, for the year 1966.

Developments in Public Health.

The year 1966 has seen the setting up of the Royal Commission on Local Government. Its report is still in the incubation stage at the time of writing, but it seems highly probable that we shall see changes not only as far as the structure of local government is concerned but also in the way public health and local government are linked.

What is to be the role of the Medical Officer of Health in the modern public health service? Some people have even questioned whether a medically qualified administrator will still be required. But surely the opposite is the case. We are today faced with problems of ill-health different from those which existed even thirty years ago. People no longer die in large numbers from such diseases as tuberculosis or polio-myelitis. But diseases equally baffling, seemingly much more baffling in the present state of our knowledge, now take up our attention. I refer to such things as cancer, bronchitis or coronary thrombosis, which are as much a challenge to public health practitioners of today as were the old killers of the past. As a complimentary situation we have provisions for social welfare which have never before been so comprehensive, inter-dependent and complicated. Prevention and cure are no longer separate entities, but part of the same social continuum. Hospitals and general practitioners are more and more involved in their patients' (and potential patients') total environment.

Much of our actual preventive work though useful in itself, does not take us far in preventing those diseases which are important today. For example, we are preventing deaths from diphtheria in children, but the problem today is to prevent those same children, in later life, getting cancer, heart disease or diabetes. Continual evaluation and reappraisal are required; research should be regarded as a built-in part of our work. It is gratifying to note that in Hertfordshire a research panel of medical and other qualified staff has now been functioning for several years.

Health Education.

Henry Sigerist, author of "History of Medicine", tells us that medical science is not a "natural" science so much as a "social" science, and that one of its main functions is to enable man to adjust to his environment.

Preventive medicine on the other hand has, until recently, concerned itself more with attempts to adjust the environment to suit man. This was of course a basic re-requisite. We had to ensure that our towns, our workplaces, our dwellings, were doing as little harm as possible to our health otherwise civilization could not go forward. But there is the other side of the coin; we have to adjust to the unnatural pace of life, to living by time-tables, to the possibility of instant mutilation or death on our roads, to the relentless pursuit of so-called leisure, to the amorphous anonymity of mass neighbourhoods. All this, what can loosely be called the "stress" of modern life, takes a toll on our physical health and our mental health unless adjustment can be made.

This surely is one of the most important areas into which preventive medicine should be advancing. But how can the problem be grasped? This is where *health education* comes in. Legislation and enforcement have no place in helping people to live healthier lives; only motivation through education and understanding can have an effect. It is of course always easier to do things *for* people than to get them to do things for themselves (as has been learnt by bitter experience in the developing countries overseas). It is relatively easy to provide the essentials of life, from the cradle to the grave, or rather, as someone remarked, "from the womb to the tomb". But this is just the framework, the bare boards, on which we ourselves have to build our own lives and it is a grave mistake to assume that no further personal effort is required. The object of health education must be towards helping people to take full advantage of all that life has to offer in the world today. Much stimulus to increase our health education is now coming from the County Council and it is pleasing to be able to record our appreciation for the help and advice received, and to note the importance attached by the County Council to this aspect of public health.

One of the duties of the Medical Officer of Health which has not changed during the last century and a quarter, is the duty of writing an Annual Report. This you will find in the following pages. I and my colleagues your Health Inspectors, have set out for you our report of the state of the health of the people whom you represent and the steps we have been able to take to protect them from sickness.

I beg to present for your consideration this our Annual Report for the year 1966 and remain, ladies and gentlemen, your obedient servant,

W. NORMAN-TAYLOR,
Medical Officer of Health.

74, Mildred Avenue,
WATFORD, Herts.
Telephone: WATFORD 26132

THE STATE OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH IN THE COMBINED DISTRICTS

VITAL STATISTICS

Population.

The Registrar General's estimates of the mid-year populations of the Districts, which form the basis for most of the statistical data in the reports, are analysed in the following table.

	Population		Total	Natural	
	1966	1965	Increase	Increase	Migration
Bushey	24,120	23,810	310	175	135
Chorleywood	7,670	7,590	80	27	53
Rickmansworth	30,290	30,270	20	193	-173
Watford Rural	60,970	60,910	60	163	-103
	123,050	122,580	470	558	-88

Note:— "Natural Increase"; excess of live births over deaths.

(The figures in the last column may include adjustments in estimates of the previous year.)

Comments. There would appear to have been very little real increase in population in the area as a whole; only Bushey and Chorleywood show an absolute increase, both due to births and inward migrants, whereas in Rickmansworth and Watford Rural the total increase in population does not match up to the increase due to births and therefore there is a "negative balance" indicating that outward migration is going on.

BIRTH RATES

The number of births, by sex, in each district is set out below. The basic figures have been corrected to exclude non-resident births (such as those occurring in the Bushey Maternity Home which caters for the Greater London Council) and to include babies born outside the area (e.g. in Watford Borough) to parents resident in the area. The birth rates have also been corrected by a factor which allows for the age group composition of the population to make them comparable with the national rates.

Birth Rates

	Live Births		(1965)	Still Births		(1965)	Illegitimate		(1965)	Birth Rate	
	M	F	Totals	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.		
Bushey	183	198	381	444	5	9	23*	28*		15.36	(0.96)
Chorleywood	30	48	78	82	1	2	4	1		10.81	(1.05)
Rickmansworth	242	213	455	449	2	7	16	18		16.14	(1.07)
Watford Rural	366	325	691	733	7	10	51	60		11.33	(0.99)
Totals	821	784	1605	1708	15	28	94	107			

* includes a still birth

Changes in the Birth Rate

	1966	1965	1964	1963	1961	1951	1939
Bushey	15.36	18.26	17.19	18.0	15.8	15.1	13.0
Chorleywood	10.81	11.62	15.42	11.1	11.9	12.5	9.0
Rickmansworth	16.14	16.12	16.55	16.1	16.6	13.6	18.8
Watford Rural	11.33	12.08	13.07	13.5	14.8	17.0	13.9
Herts County	16.3	18.10	18.29	17.4	—	—	—
England and Wales	17.7	18.1	16.3	18.2	17.4	15.5	14.7

The number of babies born continues to fall slightly (except in Rickmansworth) and, for some reason, Chorleywood and Watford Rural continue to show birth rates below the other two Districts and well below the national average.

Illegitimate Births.* There was a slight decrease in the number of illegitimate births during the year, 94 (including one still birth), as compared with 104, 107, 81 in the previous three years. The illegitimate birth rate for the combined Districts (number of illegitimate live births per cent live births) is 5.8 per cent, which compares favourably with the figure for England and Wales of 7.9%. In this year's report the illegitimate birth rate for each District is set out for the first time, but the figures are small and the fluctuations are not statistically significant.

Still Births. The still birth rates are not set out in the body of the report as the figures are too small to be of value, but for the Combined Districts the still birth rate is 0.93 per 1,000 total births.

* Further details are given for each District in the body of the Report.

DEATH RATES

The death rate in each District is lower than that for England and Wales, which in 1966 was 11.7 deaths per 1,000 population. Only Chorleywood, however, has a rate lower than Hertfordshire County, which has a rate of 9.1.

Changes in the Death Rate

	1966	Comp Factor	1965	1964	1963	1961	1951	1939
Bushey	9.5	(1.11)	10.46	10.5	10.9	8.5	9.9	7.9
Chorleywood	7.5	(1.13)	9.01	6.8	9.1	6.2	8.5	9.6
Rickmansworth	10.3	(1.19)	10.89	9.9	11.5	8.4	9.1	8.5
Watford Rural	9.9	(1.14)	10.49	9.6	10.2	8.7	7.1	8.8
England and Wales	11.7		11.5	11.3	12.2	11.9	12.5	12.1

Infantile mortality

Twenty-seven infants died in their first year of life. The rate per 1,000 live births is given in the following table. The improvement in recent years is being maintained, the credit for which must largely go to the County Maternity and Child Welfare Services. The rate for the Combined Districts, 16.8, is considerably better than the rate for the country as a whole, which now stands at 19.0 for the second year in succession.

	1966	1965	1964	1963	1961	1951	1939
Bushey	10.5	9.01	12.02	12.6	17.8	37	48
Chorleywood	25.6	24.39	27.78	0.	12.0	0	29
Rickmansworth	19.8	15.59	19.57	13.4	10.4	14.0	32
Watford Rural	17.4	12.45	13.70	21.8	20.7	29	56
Hertfordshire	13.9	15.7	14.4	15.0			
England & Wales	19.0	19.0	20.0	20.9	21.6	29.7	55.3

The largest proportion of deaths, nineteen out of the twenty-seven, occurred in the first month of life and eighteen of these in the first week. Including still births, the number is 33. The various rates, for the four Districts together, are as follows:—

Neo-natal mortality	
(infant deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 live births)	11.8
Early neo-natal mortality	
(infant deaths under 1 week per 1,000 live births)	11.1
Perinatal mortality	
(infant deaths and still births per 1,000 total births)	2.04

Deaths in these age groups are usually attributed either to congenital defects, birth injuries or prematurity, conditions which in the present state of our knowledge are more difficult to prevent.

Three of the infant deaths were illegitimate babies, out of a total of 93 illegitimate live births giving an infant mortality rate of 32.6

No maternal deaths, or deaths due to pregnancy were recorded in any of the four Districts during the year.

Deaths from Cancer of the Lung

Deaths from this cause have been rising sharply in recent years, and, as is now well known, this increase has been attributed to the increase in cigarette smoking. During the year 1966 however there has, for the first time, been a definite drop in the number of cases reported among men in the Combined Districts, quite a sharp drop, from 58 to 45. Among the women the figures are too small to be significant (there was a local decrease in numbers last year) but there is a slight increase from 8 to 10. Our local decrease among men is not in fact paralleled in the national figures. In 1965 there were 26,399 deaths; in 1966 there were 27,019. It is tempting to hope that the national anti-smoking propaganda might at last be having some effect here and there. This has occurred among doctors for example; the proportion of doctors dying of cancer of the lung started to go down a few years ago, after many doctors had given up smoking. Perhaps it will not be long before we see the same effect in the rest of the public.

	1966			1965			1964			1956			1950		
	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T
Deaths	45	10	55	58	8	66	39	15	54	30	2	32	16	2	18
England and Wales	27,019			26,399			25,371			18,186					
Male	22,606			22,231			21,476			15,615					
Female	4,413			4,168			3,895			2,571					

It should be noted that 26 of our 55 deaths occurred in persons under 65 years of age, persons still in the full tide of life.

Deaths from Coronary Heart Disease

Another disease which has appeared to be on the increase is coronary thrombosis, but here again we can report a slight drop in numbers among the men, from 144 in 1965 to 116 in 1966. This disease is about half as common in women, but our cases went up from 68 to 72 (figures too small to be of significance). Here too this is a killer among middle-aged persons; in the Combined Districts, 55 of the 188 cases were in persons under the age of 65.

	1966			1965			1964			1956			1950		
	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T	M	F	T
Deaths	116	72	188	144	68	212	142	58	200	68	48	116	52	30	82

Deaths due to Accidents.

The figures for recent years are given below. It will be seen that the figures for "other accidents", i.e. accidents in the home, have always been more numerous than road accidents, and have remained remarkably constant over the past 10 years; the doubling in the past 20 years corresponding with the increase in population. This year has seen a sharp rise in deaths from road accidents however. Until last year there had been little increase in the last 10 years; now we have a rise, but it is to be hoped this will not continue.

As is to be expected, motor accidents tend to hit the young or middle-aged adults, there being 14 deaths in this group, 5 were children under 15 and 3 were persons over 65.

Deaths due to "other" accidents however, strike at the elderly, there being 15 in persons over 65, 8 among younger adults, and 2 in children under 15.

		1966	1965	1964	1956	1946
Bushey:	Road	3	3	3	3	1
	Other	5	3	5	0	2
Chorleywood:	Road	1	1	0	1	1
	Other	2	2	0	3	1
Rickmansworth:	Road	4	2	6	2	0
	Other	6	4	9	9	4
Watford Rural:	Road	14	8	8	7	4
	Other	12	16	12	11	4
Total:	Road	22	14	17	13	5
	Other	25	25	26	23	11

Deaths from Suicide

There were nine deaths from suicide, two in persons over 65, five in persons between 35 and 65, one under 35 and one under 25. Suicide is a preventable condition, and every death from this cause means that society has let the person down in some way.

Deaths under the age of 65

We all have to die sometime but looking at the matter from a social and economic point of view the "wastage" is more serious when death comes under the age of 65, not to mention the added distress when there are young widows and orphaned children. Out of the total of 1,047 deaths in the Combined Districts, 357 were in persons under the age of 65.

	Deaths under 65	Deaths over 65
Bushey	64	142
Chorleywood	15	36
Rickmansworth	89	173
Watford Rural	189	339
Totals	<u>357</u>	<u>690</u>

No particular cause can be ascribed to these deaths. The three principal killers, lung cancer, coronary thrombosis and motor accidents have been mentioned above. Other causes are scattered throughout the range of human afflictions as can be seen from the tables in the body of the report. Other forms of cancer are important and it is worth mentioning the 24 women who died under the age of 65 (out of a total of 35) died from cancer of the breast or womb. Both of these conditions are curable if detected early, and it is to be hoped that the propaganda about self-examination of the breast, and cervical cytology (though this deals with only part of the womb) may produce results.

Deaths from Infectious Disease

Deaths from infectious disease is now very rare, but the following may be mentioned:

Tuberculosis: Twelve persons died from this as a primary or secondary cause.

Syphilis: Two deaths

Encephalitis: Two deaths

There were no deaths from diphtheria or poliomyelitis.

COMMUNICABLE DISEASES

Measles

During the year, there was a slight increase in the measles cases during the summer, but it was not an epidemic year, there being a total of 563 cases as compared with 1,449 the year before. Six of the children were sufficiently ill to need hospital admission, one of them suffering from encephalitis.

Typhoid and paratyphoid

Only one case of typhoid was notified during the year and that was a Pakistani immigrant boy in Watford Rural who developed the disease a few days after arrival in this country. He had almost certainly contracted the disease elsewhere. No secondary cases occurred.

Our carrier in Leavesden Hospital has continued to defy medical treatment and up to the time of going to press she is still infectious and still in isolation, three years after her original infection.

Two cases of paratyphoid were notified, the first one occurring in a resident domestic help working for an old lady. The latter was found to be a chronic carrier and treatment failed to clear up the infection. She remains under surveillance at the time of writing.

Dysentery

Sonnei dysentery has occurred only sporadically in the general public, usually individual cases and nearly always small children. In the early months of the year there were several cases among school children in schools in areas bordering on Hemel Hempstead where there had been school outbreaks. In Leavesden Hospital there was an epidemic of dysentery in January and February with some 50 cases, and a further wave of 15 cases in the summer. Individual cases continued in the hospital thereafter. An explosive outbreak of this disease occurred in a boarding school for boys in October with 74 cases in the first week and another thirty or so in the next few weeks following. The first case was a boy who had just returned from his summer holiday in Ghana and it would seem that he brought the disease with him. Several day-boys were

infected and in a few cases passed it on to their younger brothers and sisters in local County schools. The outbreak was a reminder of the need for constant vigilance in closed communities of this sort and resulted in a radical overhaul of their laundry and washing-up systems.

Food Poisoning

Food poisoning notifications were relatively rare, usually individual or family occurrences, but there was one alarming outbreak at Abbots Langley Hospital, (which is a hospital for geriatric cases) among patients who were already feeble or debilitated, all on the same light diet. Some 112 patients were involved. The infective organism was *Clostridium welchii*, and was thought to have been conveyed in some tinned minced chicken, though this was not definitely proved. It is probable that the mince was infected after the tin was opened and incubated in the few hours before it was served. It had been heated in an oven which was subsequently shown to be not functioning properly. The organism could have been introduced in raw meat juice which might have been in the pans in which the mince was warmed. This epidemic was a salutary reminder to the catering staff that this type of food should be kept either very cold or thoroughly cooked, and that mere "warming" can be very dangerous.

A mysterious alimentary disease occurred in a girls' boarding school during the summer term. In one of the "houses" several girls suffered from vomiting, sometimes with diarrhoea. These attacks came on, involving different girls each time during the night at regular weekly intervals for several weeks, then sporadically. It was assumed that some item of food eaten during the day was to blame but no particular clue was forthcoming. In the course of routine investigations one girl was found to be harbouring germs of *Salmonella typhi-murium*, but none of the others. Apart from this the symptoms more resembled the so-called "winter vomiting disease" (thought to be due to a virus) except that this was high summer. Here again kitchen hygiene left much to be desired. For example, it was the practice to buy large cans of soup powder, take out a sufficiency for one evening's soup then replace the lid, perhaps weeks elapsing before that particular powder was used again. A wide assortment of half-used foods of this sort were found in the larder. The epidemic came to an end at the end of the term and did not recur when the girls reassembled.

Hepatitis

The smouldering epidemic of this disease in Abbots Langley and the surrounding area continued from the previous year, eight cases occurring in the first few months. In spite of intensive investigations no clue as to the source has been found. There were two cases in Rickmansworth; one in Chorleywood and one in Sarratt were possibly connected. The disease is not notifiable in Bushey nor in the parts of Watford Rural which fall in the Metropolitan Police area, but doctors have been asked to notify voluntarily.

Tuberculosis

There were fewer notifications of the onset of pulmonary tuberculosis during 1966, 18 as compared with 25 last year. As in previous years the mass X-ray unit of the Regional Hospital Board surveys the younger working population, but in fact very few cases are discovered this way now-a-days. The incidence of active pulmonary tuberculosis in the general public, as reported by the Mass Radiography Unit, was 1.2 cases per thousand in 1966, as compared with 1.8 in 1962. All immigrants of whom we

are informed, are asked to attend at the chest clinic for X-ray. Taking the Region as a whole the incidence among immigrant men was: Asians, 14.4 per thousand; Irish, 12.4; West Indians, 6.8; and Africans, 2.2. In most cases the rates for women were much lower.

HEALTH EDUCATION

Under Section 179 of the Public Health Act of 1936, local authorities may arrange for the “publication of information on questions relating to health or disease, for the delivery of lectures or the display of pictures”. The subjects usually dealt with by local authorities are such things as food hygiene, general sanitation (e.g. flies) and infectious diseases. Under the Home Safety Act of 1961 this subject was added, and in fact posters on this theme are among the most often displayed.

In the four Districts a series of posters have been displayed during the year on council and parish council notice boards. Although purchased separately by each District, the posting up is timed so that all go up at about the same time.

In addition the quarterly “Bulletin” on food hygiene has been sent to the food handling premises, again as far as possible a concerted action over the four Districts.

The Needs of Old People

The official provision of welfare for old people, or all persons unable to care for themselves, is the responsibility of the County Council. But in fact the day to day neighbourly care of the older residents in any community is very much a local matter. A variety of voluntary associations or semi-official committees attempts to bring some element of co-ordination and consistency, and most of these bodies are doing very valuable work. One might mention the meals-on-wheels service for example, the Darby-and-Joan clubs, and the very vigorous Old Age Pensioners Association in South Oxhey. On the official side, the health visitors employed by the County Council, are paying increasing attention to old people. Especially where they are attached to doctors in general practice, they can do routine visits to all the old people on the doctor's list and ensure that all is well. But still cases occasionally come to one's attention of old people who have escaped notice and are discovered, often by accident – perhaps reported by someone such as the milkman – to have lapsed into a state of gross neglect. In some cases they were known to the voluntary associations years ago but because of their unpleasant habits, and manners, or even verbal abuse, have been avoided or forgotten. These are of course the very people who most need help, yet at the same time are the most difficult to give help to. It is surprising, and often very gratifying, however to find that even these, dirty, objectionable and abusive though they may be, can often be rehabilitated and turned into smiling, healthy, perhaps grateful, old folk. It seems that we need more effective machinery to enable us to ensure that no-one is overlooked in this way. Has the time come for some sort of “register” of old-persons? Some voluntary societies have been attempting to do this, with varying degrees of success. Has not the time arrived when the local authorities ought to be doing it? But to be effective it means staff and money, and at present the organisation of such an ideal is not a practical possibility for your Medical Officer of Health, however desirable it may be.

Hypothermia – the deadly chill.

In the last few years there has been increasing interest in this condition as a contributory cause of death in old people and in small infants. It is surprising that in England, where fear of "taking a chill", fear of getting our feet wet, of sitting in a draught, is ingrained in us from childhood, it should have taken so long to discover that simply a lack of adequate domestic heating is without doubt a very definite hazard. Why has it taken so long to establish this fact? Is this something new or has it always been with us and passed unnoticed? It is true that we have only started to recognise this condition since G.P.'s and health visitors have been using the low reading clinical thermometers. It is quite certain that many people in the past must have suffered from this condition, but one wonders whether some of the blame for the present situation cannot be put on the fact that we are in a transitional stage as far as domestic heating is concerned. Up until comparatively recently our houses, even the houses of the poor, contained at least one, if not two or three, good open fires, well supplied with fuel and kept burning all day and most of the night. The effect was that the house itself, became a kind of storage heater, its very fabric was warm and stayed that way. Today, these same houses often have only a small electric or gas element. The air may be warmed, but not the bricks and mortar. As soon as the fire is switched off, the whole house is cold. Old people are often very parsimonious. They do not mind spending money on coal – they regard that as normal, but they do fear the quarterly electricity bills. The one-bar fire in the living room is switched off at every opportunity; their bedrooms are as arctic as the weather outside.

We are busy building old-persons' accommodation; many of the new homes have up-to-date warm-air or under-floor heating. But the old folk we put in them cannot, or more often will not, afford to pay out hard cash simply on the luxury of keeping their home warm. Surely the time has come when all old-persons' dwellings (and all dwellings for that matter) should be heated by some centrally controlled method so that heat is supplied as normally and naturally as one supplies the water and the drainage. It is to be hoped that it will soon be realized that not only have we left the nineteenth century but that we are nearly in the twenty-first.

During the year a circular on this subject was sent to all members of public health committees in the Districts, with a copy to the Engineers and Surveyors. Among the death certificates reaching me during the winter of 1966-67, which was in fact mild, only one mentioned hypothermia as a contributory cause. At least one other old person was admitted to hospital with this condition, however.

HEALTH AND WELFARE

Responsibility for Health and Welfare lies with the County Council as the local health authority. The day to day running of the services in the four Districts, and Watford Borough, has however been delegated to a local Divisional Executive for Health and Welfare. Matters dealt with are such things as health centres, health visiting, day nurseries, child minding and care and after care.

Members of this Committee representing the Districts during the year were:—

Councillor Mrs. D. H. REYNOLDS,
Councillor L. G. ALDEN,
Councillor C. M. LEWIS,

Councillor A. W. HAUCK,

Mr. R. J. PITKIN,

Councillor E. H. NIMMO,
Councillor J. BRIGHT,
Councillor Mrs. P. C. BUTCHERS,

Bushey Urban District Council
Bushey Urban District Council
Chorleywood Urban District
Council

Rickmansworth Urban District
Council

Rickmansworth Urban District
Council

Watford Rural District Council
Watford Rural District Council
Watford Rural District Council

County Health and Welfare Staff

Divisional Medical Officer: Dr. W. A. ALCOCK.

Senior Assistant County Medical Officer: Dr. W. NORMAN-TAYLOR.

Deputy Divisional Medical Officer: Dr. J. SLEIGH.

Divisional Nursing Officer: Miss A. FEATHERSTONE.

Divisional Social Work Organiser: Miss M. P. KEENLEYSIDE.

Divisional Home Help Organiser: Mrs. G. LEWIS

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH JOINT COMMITTEE (from April 1966)

Councillor F. M. COLLINS, M.B.E., Bushey Urban District Council.

Councillor J. N. A. HUDSON, Bushey Urban District Council.

Councillor Mrs. D. H. REYNOLDS, Bushey Urban District Council.

Councillor J. J. ELLIS, J. P., Chorleywood Urban District Council.

Councillor J. M. ELLIS, Chorleywood Urban District Council.

Councillor C. R. FENTON, O.B.E., Rickmansworth Urban District Council.

Councillor A. W. HAUCK, Rickmansworth Urban District Council.

Councillor G. THOMAS, Rickmansworth Urban District Council.

Councillor Mrs. E. A. HARLEY, Watford Rural District Council.

Councillor J. BRIGHT, Watford Rural District Council.

Councillor H. RENWICK, Watford Rural District Council.

Councillor R. WEST, Watford Rural District Council.

BUSHEY URBAN DISTRICT

Members of the Public Health Committee (from April, 1966): Councillor Mrs. M. DARBYSHIRE, (*Chairman*); Councillor L. ALLAKER; Councillor R.A. BUTTIGIEG; Councillor F.M. COLLINS, M.B.E., J.P; Councillor J. N.A. HUDSON; Councillor P.P. LEVEY; Councillor P.A. OSBORN; Councillor Mrs. D.H. REYNOLDS.

Senior Public Health Inspector: A.C.F. GISBORNE, Cert. Royal Sanitary Institute and Sanitary Inspectors Joint Board, Cert. Inspn. of Meat and other Foods.

Public Health Inspectors:

A.G. BUTTERFIELD, Cert. P.H.I.E.B.

D.J. GADSBY, Cert. P.H.I.E.B., Cert. Inspn. of Meat and other Foods, Cert. Smoke Inspn.

Student Public Health Inspector: A.R. PADDINGTON.

General.

Area of District (land and inland water), 3,866 acres.

Highest Point – London Road at Southern boundary, 506.7ft.

Lowest Point – Near River Colne, 172.2ft.

Dwellings and Rateable Value. (31st March, 1967).

Number of Separate Dwellings	Rateable Value.	Product (est.) of Penny Rate
7,230	£1,365,364	£5,404

Population. (Registrar General's estimates for mid-year).

1966	1965	1964	1963	1951	1939
24,120	23,810	23,450	22,250	16,060	12,930

Birth Rate. Live births per 1,000 of population. (Comparability Factor 0.96).

1966	1965	1964	1963	1951	1939
15.4	18.26	17.2	17.9	15.1	13.0

Classification of Births:

Total live births	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	381
Illegitimate live births	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	22
Still births...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5

Still Birth Rate. (per 1,000 births)

1966	1965	1964	1963	1951	1939
13.12	20.27	9.6	7.1	16.2	35.7

Illegitimate Birth Rate (per cent Live Births)

1966	1965	1964	1963	1951	1939
5.8	6.08	2.8	2.6	0	4.7

Code No.	Cause of Death	Sex	Total All ages	Under 4 weeks	4 weeks and under		AGE IN YEARS								75 and over		
					1 year	1 year	1—	5—	15—	25—	35—	45—	55—	65—			
3	Syphilitic Disease	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	F	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
		M	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
		F	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
11	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	M	11	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	4	—	—	—
		F	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
12	Malignant neoplasm, breast	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
		F	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	2	—	—	—	—	1
13	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	F	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
14	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	M	11	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	3	2	1	1	4	—
		F	8	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	2	1	3	—	1	—
16	Diabetes	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
		F	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
17	Vascular lesions of nervous system	M	13	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	6	—	6	—
		F	20	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	7	—	11	—
18	Coronary disease, angina	M	24	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	8	3	—	10	—
		F	12	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	—	8	—
19	Hypertension with heart disease	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
		F	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
20	Other heart disease	M	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	3	—
		F	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	6	—
21	Other circulatory disease	M	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	—	5	—
		F	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	—
22	Influenza	M	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
		F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
23	Pneumonia	M	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	7	—
		F	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7	—
24	Bronchitis	M	12	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	3	—	—	8	—
		F	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
25	Other diseases of respiratory system	M	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—
		F	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
26	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
		F	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
27	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
		F	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
28	Nephritis and nephrosis	M	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
		F	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
29	Hyperplasia of prostate	M	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
31	Congenital malformations	M	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
		F	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
32	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	M	5	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	2	—
		F	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	6	—
33	Motor vehicle accidents	M	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
		F	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
34	All other accidents	M	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	3	—
		F	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
35	Suicide	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
		F	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ALL CAUSES		M	109	1	—	—	2	1	—	1	1	12	25	18	48		
		F	97	1	2	—	1	—	—	—	1	6	10	22	54		

NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES
INCIDENCE according to AGE and SEX during 1966.

AGE GROUPS	Scarlet Fever		Whooping Cough		Measles		Other notifiable diseases		
	M	F	M	F	M	F		M	F
0-1	-	-	-	-	10	6	Puerperal Pyrexia	-	16
1-2	-	-	-	1	29	22			
3-4	1	-	1	1	35	33			
5-9	1	2	-	-	24	25			
10-14	-	-	-	-	-	4			
15-24	-	-	-	-	-	-			
25 and over ..	-	-	-	-	-	1			
TOTALS	2	2	1	2	98	91		-	16

AGE GROUPS	Tuberculosis Respiratory		Dysentery		Acute Pneumonia		Food Poisoning		Meningo-coccal Infection	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0-4	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1
5-14	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
15-44	1	-	} 3	2	-	-	1	1	-	-
45-64	2	-			-	1	1	-	-	-
65 and over ..	-	-			-	1	-	-	-	-
Age unknown	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	-
TOTALS	3	-	3	3	-	2	4	2	-	1

No cases of the following notifiable diseases occurred:
Acute Poliomyelitis: paralytic, non-paralytic. Diphtheria. Smallpox. Plague. Malaria. Relapsing fever. Typhus fever. Cholera. Typhoid and Paratyphoid. Erysipelas. Acute Encephalitis: infective, post-infectious. Tuberculosis: meninges and C.N.S., other Food Poisoning. Ophthalmia Neonatorum, Infective Hepatitis.

Month of occurrence	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Scarlet Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	3	-
Whooping Cough	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	2	-	-
Measles	-	-	-	1	18	13	62	38	3	7	37	10
Puerperal Pyrexia	2	-	1	-	1	-	4	3	-	3	2	-
Dysentery	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	1	-	3	-	-
Acute Pneumonia	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	3	-	-	-	-	2	-	1	-	-	-	-
Meningococcal Infection	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tuberculosis Respiratory	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1

Deaths. 206 persons died during the year.

Death Rate. (Comparability Factor, 1.11). Number of deaths per 1000 population.

1966	1965	1964	1963	1951	1939
9.45	10.46	10.5	10.9	9.9	7.9

Infantile Mortality Rate.

Number of deaths under age of 1 year per 1000 live births.

1966	1965	1964	1963	1951	1939
10.5	9.01	12.0	12.6	37	48

Classification of Infant Deaths:

			Under Age of 1 week		Under Age of 4 weeks		Under Age of 1 year	
			M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Total	...	...	1	1	1	1	1	3

REPORT OF THE SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

HOUSING CONDITIONS

1. Inspection of Dwelling Houses.

a, Total number of houses inspected (Public Health and Housing Acts) ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	257
b, Number of inspections made for the purpose	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	397

2. Action Taken

a, Clearance Areas declared	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
b, Unfit houses included in a, above	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
c, Individual houses demolished	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
d, Individual houses closed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
e, Parts of buildings closed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
f, Dwellings rendered fit after:—									
i. Informal action .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	19
ii. Formal action ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2

3. Overcrowding.

a, Cases brought forward from previous year	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
b, Premises found to be overcrowded during the year	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
c, Cases of overcrowding abated	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0

4. Certificates of Disrepair.

a, Undertaking by landlord — Form K.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
b, Certificates issued — Form L	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0

5. Improvement Grants.

a, Applications made (including Standard Grants 11)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
b, Grants made after completion of work (including Standard Grants 9)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10

6. Number of Houses and Flats Erected During the Year.

a, By the Local Authority	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	82
b, By other Authorities and Organisations	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
c, By private persons	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	124

7. Licensed Caravan Sites Operation on the 31st December, 1965.

a, Number of licensed sites	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
b, Number of caravans stationed on these sites	...	...	...	...	...	...	111

Clearance Areas

No properties were dealt with by way of clearance area procedure during 1966.

Individual Unfit Houses

Formal action was taken in the case of four unfit properties:—

116-118, School Lane – demolition orders made.

59, Bushey Grove Road (underground room) – closing order made.

Little Patchetts Green Farm Cottage (part building) – undertaking to close accepted.

Three cottages Nos. 4, 5 and 6 Grove Place, on which an undertaking not to use for human habitation had previously been accepted, were demolished.

Premises Repairable at a Reasonable Cost

Fourteen informal notices were served on owners requiring repairs to be carried out. No formal proceedings were taken during the year.

Certificates of Disrepair

One application for a certificate was received, and in due course the owner gave an undertaking to remedy all the defects enumerated in the application. No certificate was, therefore, issued.

Improvement Grants

Following the preliminary survey carried out in 1965 of the area bounded by School Lane, Merry Hill Road, Victoria Road and Rosebery Road, only two further applications for Standard Grants were received during the year. A further approach, however, was made to owners of properties in this area who were eligible for grants, but in many cases the tenants, particularly those who were pensioners, did not wish for works of improvement to be carried out.

A preliminary survey of a second area comprising Arthur Street, Ashdon Road, Bendysh Road, Greatham Road, Walton Road and William Street, was commenced at the end of the year.

Caravan Sites

In December 1966, there were twelve licenced sites in operation accommodating some 111 caravans. After considerable delay, due to the construction of the extension of the M1 Motorway, work was commenced to bring a large caravan site up to the required standards. When these works are complete, this site will comply fully with the model standards while the owner also intends to provide main drainage facilities to each caravan.

The discontinuance order made in respect of the Blue Star Caravan Site, was confirmed by the Minister of Housing and Local Government on the 25th February, 1966. This order required the present use of the land as a caravan site to be discontinued after November, and at the end of the year only one occupied caravan remained on the site together with two derelict vans left by previous occupiers. After the discontinuance order was confirmed, three families were re-housed in Council premises and eight families moved to plots on the Council's Caravan Site. During the year eighteen plots were vacated on the Council's Caravan Site at Brookside, Eastbury Road, Watford.

The Council again experienced some difficulty with itinerant caravan dwellers, these being mainly isolated groups of one to four caravans and not, as in the previous years, large encampments. These small groups were dealt with by serving Abatement Notices under the Public Health Act when nuisances had been created, or, if on land owned by this Council, were moved on after being given due warning. The site in Bushey operated by the Hertfordshire County Council for itinerant caravan dwellers seems to be settling down, but doubtless is the cause of small groups camping on the roads nearby in the hope that they may be admitted to the site. Local residents are particularly perturbed about this as, when the "gypsy" site was established, they were promised "strong action" by the County Council should itinerants park on the road-side nearby.

WATER SUPPLY

Domestic Supply

Except for one house which is connected to its own bore hole, the whole of the district is supplied with water by the Colne Valley Water Company. As far as is known all premises within the district have an internal water supply, except one house which is being dealt with by way of a demolition order. Eleven samples of water were taken and submitted for bacteriological examination and all but one were satisfactory. The unsatisfactory sample had been taken from an unsterilised tap and upon re-sampling was found to be satisfactory.

Swimming Pool

Ten samples of water were taken from the Council's Swimming Pool and submitted for bacteriological examination. All the samples, with the exception of one, proved satisfactory. Mechanical chlorination is continuous, and the testing of water for free chlorine is carried out at frequent intervals during the day when the Swimming Pool is in use.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

Public Conveniences

Public Conveniences are provided in Rudolph Road, High Road and Park Avenue, and all have washing facilities. It is, however, regretted that frequent reports are received concerning vandalism, and often the public are denied these essential facilities due to the irresponsible action of a few people. Conveniences are also available at the King George Recreation Ground and the Rose Garden.

Dwellings Not Connected

Cesspool emptying is under the control of the Surveyor and he has kindly supplied the following information for the year 1966:—

Number of cesspools emptied	...	...	...	...	39
	(reducing to 30 at the end of the year)				
Number of emptyings	...	...	...	...	377
Number of loads removed	...	...	...	...	646
Number of gallons removed	...	...	...	...	654,000

The resewering of Hilfield Lane and Pegmire Lane areas in 1965 has resulted in nine more houses being connected to the main drainage system. Two houses still remain to be connected and it is hoped that the owners will carry out this work in the very near future. The resewering

of this area has considerably reduced the number of cesspools emptied by the Council, and at the end of the year only 30 remained. These cesspools mainly serve isolated properties, many of which cannot be connected to the main drainage system without excessive cost. There are a few isolated business premises where cesspools are emptied by private arrangement with contractors.

Drain Testing and Clearing.

New and Altered Drainage Systems.

Inspections – number of tests made 606

Council Houses.

Number of obstructions cleared by the Department 37

Number of houses affected 45

Private Houses.

Number of obstructions cleared by the Department 123

Number of houses affected 256

PUBLIC CLEANSING

Refuse Collection

Collection is carried out by contract, three rear loading compression type vehicles being in full time use. The standard and regularity of collection has not been entirely satisfactory, particularly at the end of the year. The contractors state that this was due to labour difficulties together with a number of breakdowns of the vehicles. They promised improvement.

During the year 153 requests were made for additional refuse to be collected and this included 67 beds and mattresses, 64 miscellaneous articles of furniture and 40 prams, cookers, refrigerators and similar metal objects. In some cases, where bulky items were involved, the contractors removed these but a charge was made.

Refuse Disposal

The refuse from Bushey is disposed of on a private tip at Moor Mills some six miles away. There is no suitable tip now remaining in Bushey.

FOOD HYGIENE

Food Condemned

Meat, Carcase	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	43 lb.
Meat, Canned	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	25 lb.
Meat, Cooked	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	47 lb.
Fish ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	40 lb.
Other Foods	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	14 lb.

together with approximately 103 lb. of frozen food damaged as the result of the failure of refrigerators. All unsound food is disposed of by burying.

There is little doubt that the public's concern over the quality of the food they purchase is increasing. Twenty-four complaints were received during the year as set out below, followed by details of the action taken:—

Milk Bottle	—	Glass in milk — Retailer fined £15 and 3 gns costs.
Milk Bottle	—	Postcard in milk — Retailer fined £15 and 3 gns costs.
Imported Tinned Tomatoes	—	Insects in contents — Warning letter to importers.
Loaf of Bread	—	Bristle — Warning letter to retailer.
Loaf of Bread	—	Glass — Bakers informed.
Figs	—	Mould — Warning letter to retailer.

Bread Roll	— Needle — Warning letter to retailer.
Chocolate Roll	— Taste — Manufacturers informed.
Loaf of Bread	— Rodent excreta — Bakers fined £10 and 17 gns costs.
Fish Cakes	— Cardboard — Warning letter to manufacturers.
Bread Roll	— Bristle — Bakers fined £10 and £10 gns costs:
Bottled Mussels	— Glass — Bottlers fined £20 and 6 gns costs.
Butter	— Bristle — Warning letter to importers and action taken by exporting country against dairy.
Meat Pie	— Insect — Manufacturers informed.
Yoghurt	— Wood splinter — Manufacturers informed.
Cold Roast Pork	— Maggots — Retailer fined £10 and 8 gns costs.
Gherkins	— Precipitate — Low vinegar content — Bottlers informed.

Complaints where no further action was possible:—

Loaf of Bread	— Discoloured — Mixture of flour.
Loaf of Bread	— Burnt dough found on analysis.
3 loaves of Bread	— Mould — Time lapse between purchase and complaint to Public Health Department too long.
Tin of Peaches	— Frothing.
Cheese	— Contamination — No cheese remained for examination.

Some persons reporting foreign bodies in food or food out of condition, were strongly opposed to any legal proceedings being taken, but insisted on the management or the manufacturers being made aware of their complaint. They were not satisfied with the local shop-keeper merely replacing the article complained of.

In a few cases the available evidence to substantiate formal action was not sufficient.

Slaughterhouses

There are no slaughterhouses in the district and no casual slaughtering took place during 1966.

Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960.

The following table shows the type and numbers of food premises in the district. The columns lettered give the below-mentioned information:—

- The number of premises.
- The number of premises fitted to comply with Regulation 16 (provision of washand basins.)
- The number of premises to which Regulation 19 applies (facilities for washing food and equipment).
- The number of premises fitted to comply with Regulation 19.
- The number of inspections made.

Food Premises:	a	b	c	d	e
Bakehouses	4	4	4	4	10
Butchers	13	13	13	13	28
Cafes and Restaurants	8	8	8	8	36
Canteens, factory	12	12	12	12	44
Canteens, school	18	18	18	18	68
Fish and Chip shops	2	2	2	2	8
Fishmongers	3	3	3	3	6
Greengrocers	12	12	9	9	18
Grocers, retail	25	25	22	22	42
Grocers, wholesale	—	—	—	—	—
Hospitals and Nursing Homes	6	6	6	6	4
Hotels and Guest Houses	1	1	1	1	2
Public Houses	18	18	18	18	43
Licensed Clubs	7	7	7	7	7
Mobile Food Premises (excluding ice cream vendors)	10	0	0	0	2
Miscellaneous Premises (sweets, etc.)	25	25	8	8	38
Sweet Manufacturer	1	1	1	1	2
<i>Registered Premises included above:</i>					
Cooked meats and preserved food	14				
Ice Cream retailers	27				
Dairies	1				

As the result of routine inspection, thirteen informal notices were served while sixteen notices were complied with during the year. All food premises were visited regularly throughout the year and the Inspectors found that the equipment in most premises was satisfactory. They were thus able to concentrate on advising the food handlers on the various techniques that must be adopted when handling food.

The following contraventions of the Food Hygiene Regulations were remedied:—

Personal Cleanliness	...	...	...	...	...	0
Sanitary Conveniences:						
(a) Insufficient	...	...	...	...	...	0
(b) Defective	...	...	...	...	...	7
Premises:						
(a) Dirty condition	...	...	...	...	...	16
(b) Defective	...	...	...	...	...	8
Washing facilities:						
(a) Insufficient	...	...	...	...	...	4
(b) Defective	...	...	...	...	...	2
(c) Dirty	...	...	...	...	...	1
Equipment:						
(a) Dirty condition	...	...	...	...	...	4
(b) Defective or insufficient	...	...	...	...	...	1

The practice commenced last year concerning the issue of regular bulletins to food traders, has continued, and it is felt that this method of emphasizing one particular aspect of food hygiene each time that the bulletin is issued, is extremely useful.

Milk Supply

Four more distributors have been registered. These concerned the sale of bottled milk from general stores, there being one dispensing machine in operation in the district. At the end of the year there were one dairy and twelve distributors on the register.

Ice Cream

Twenty-seven retail premises are registered, all of whom purchase their supplies from one or other of the large manufacturers of ice cream, there being no manufacturer in the district. Fourteen samples were submitted for bacteriological examination and the bacteriologist placed these in the following grades:—

Grade 1	...	...	...	9
Grade 2	...	...	...	4
Grade 3	...	...	...	1
Grade 4	...	...	...	—

Food and Drugs Act, 1955 – Sampling

At the end of the year, the Bushey Urban District Council were still waiting for the Minister of Health's decision regarding their application to become a Food and Drugs Authority. Routine sampling has been carried out by the County Council and we are indebted to the Chief Inspector of the Weights and Measure Department for the following information:—

Milk Samples: None taken in Bushey, as samples were from the same retailers in other Districts.

Other Foods: 16 Genuine
4 Not Genuine

Genuine: Lemon Flavouring, Steak & Kidney Pie (Frozen), Steakburgers, Chicken Noodle Soup, Savoury Minced Steak, Creamed Sago Milk Pudding, Blackcurrent Sweet, Pure Cream, Butter Chocolate Cake, Orange Juice (Sweetened), Full Cream Evaporated Milk, Apples, Sauce Robert, Garlic Vinegar, Beef Sausage (Meat content 56% contained Sulphur Dioxide within prescribed limit), Pork Sausages (Meat content 74% contained Sulphur Dioxide within prescribed limit).

Not Genuine:

Blackcurrent Conserve – Top of Jam covered with mould growth. When removed remainder of sample satisfactory. Examination of remainder of stocks did not reveal any further mould. No formal sample could be procured.

Cal-Fresh – Contained 0.95% Sodium Cyclamate. Prohibited under Artificial Sweeteners in Food Orders 1953. Manufacturers advised.

Cream of Chicken Soup – (Two samples). Deficient in Fat for soups labelled Cream of Chicken Soup. Manufacturers cautioned.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS

Rodent Control

The work done during the year under the 1949 Act is recorded in the following table:—

Properties other than Sewers.		Non-Agricultural	Agricultural
Number of properties in district ...		7966	28
Total number of properties (including nearby premises) inspected following notification		247	4
Number infested by (a) Rats ...		217	3
(b) Mice ...		21	1
Total number of properties inspected for rats and/or mice for reasons other than notification		253	4
Number infested by (a) Rats ...		16	—
(b) Mice ...		1	—

Sewers

Test baiting of sewers is due in 1967. There were no reports received of any surface infestations being linked with local sewers.

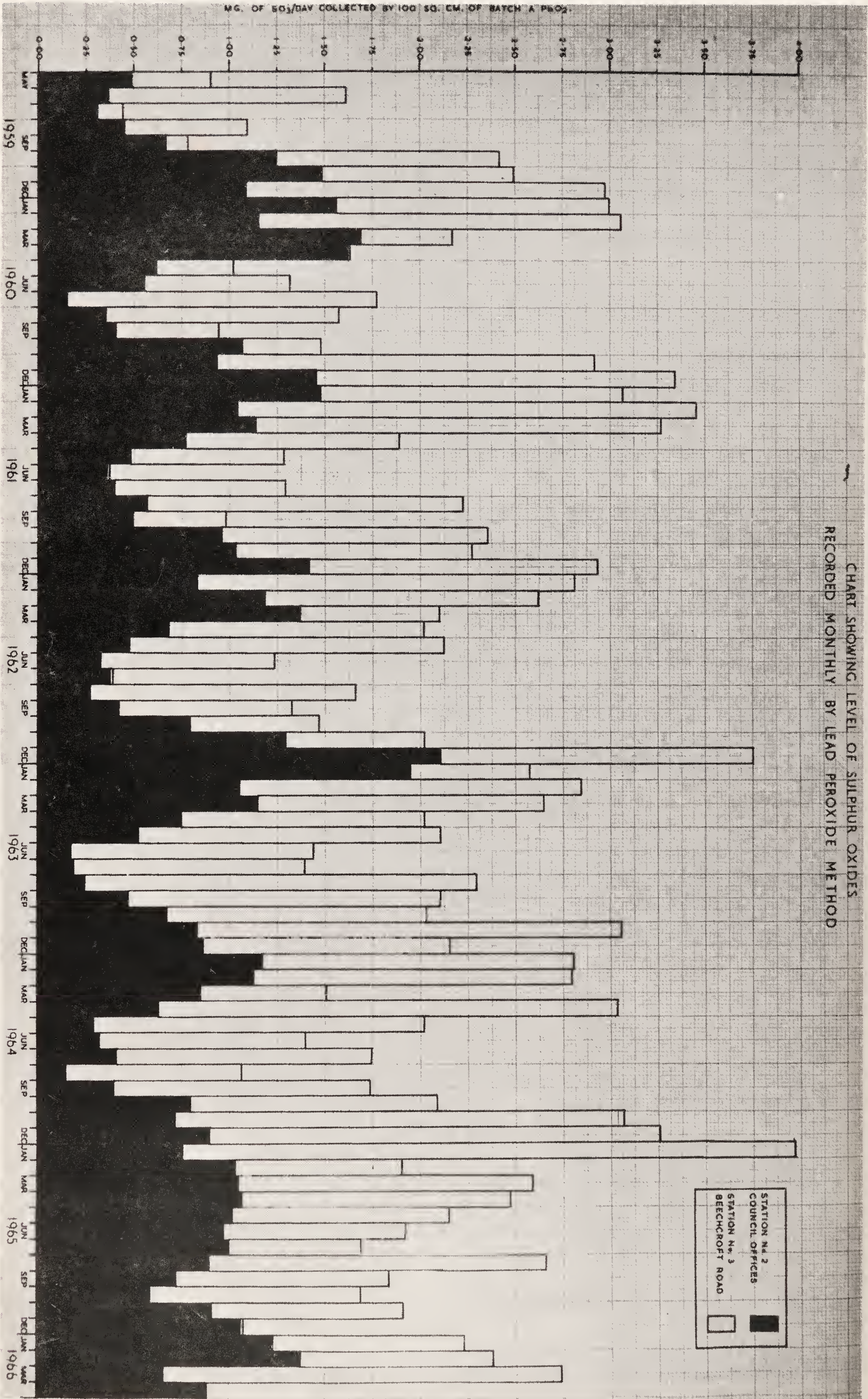
Surface Properties

No block control schemes were carried out during the year and no legal proceedings were necessary. Disinfestation work at dwelling houses is carried out free of charge. There are, however, three contracts with owners where disinfestation is carried out on business premises.

Insect and Other Pests

Twenty-eight premises were treated as a result of insect infestation (one for bed bugs, five for fleas, eighteen for ants and four for beetles). Fifty-two wasps nests were destroyed at the request of householders.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION



In April, 1966, the use of lead peroxide candles for the measurement of air pollution by sulphur oxides was discontinued. This method of recording pollution had been continued over a period of seven years, and on Page 24 is set out in graph form the levels of pollution during this period, comparing the records taken at the Council Offices with those taken on the Colne Valley Water Company's premises adjoining Beechcroft Road. The records for the other sites used during the above mentioned period followed closely the pattern recorded at the Council Offices.

When examining the graph, it is necessary to take into consideration the increase in the number of rateable premises from 6,521 in 1959 to 7,966 in 1967.

Two volumetric smoke machines were installed and brought into operation. One machine is sited at the Council Offices and came into operation on the 4th October, while the other machine is sited on the premises of the Colne Valley Water Company in Aldenham Road and came into operation on the 1st November. The Colne Valley Water Company's co-operation in permitting this apparatus to be installed on their premises, and the assistance they are able to give regarding the daily attention, is very greatly appreciated. The results obtained are sent to the Warren Spring Laboratory of the Ministry of Technology and are included in the National Survey of Air Pollution.

Six notices were received concerning the installation of boiler plants. These were all small installations with a total output of 1,040,000 B.Th.U/Hr.

OFFICES AND SHOPS

Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963.

During 1966 there were six additions to the register and twenty deletions. Some of these deletions refer to premises that were found, after inspection, to concern H.M. Inspector of Factories. The closest co-operation is maintained between the Council's officers and H.M. District Inspector of Factories for the Area.

General Inspections.

All premises on the register that were occupied on the 31st December, 1966, have now received a general inspection. Inspections made during 1967 will mainly concern re-visits to make sure that the various contraventions found have been remedied. Any newly-occupied premises will, of course, receive a general inspection.

Contraventions.

Contraventions found mainly concerned the provision of thermometers, first-aid boxes and the provision of "abstracts". No serious contravention was found concerning any structural matters, while only one case of overcrowding was revealed.

Accidents.

During the year only two accidents were reported. One concerned a fall down a flight of stairs, while in the other case, an employee was struck by a reversing lorry.

Statistical Information.

Statistical information required by the Minister of Labour is as follows:-

Number of Premises on the Register at the end of 1966.

Offices	...	...	...	...	...	49
Retail shops	...	...	...	...	...	84
Wholesale shops, warehouses	...	...				4
Catering Establishments open to the public, canteens	...	...	...			4
Fuel storage depots	...	...	...	...		Nil
						<u>141</u>

Number of General Inspections.

Offices	...	...	...	...	...	25
Retail shops	...	...	...	...	...	33
Wholesale shops, warehouses	...	...				2
Catering Establishments open to the public, canteens	...	...	...			3
Fuel storage depots	...	...	...	...		Nil
						<u>63</u>

Number of visits of all kinds 183

Number of Employees.

		Males	Females	Total
Offices	...	214	239	452
Retail shops	...	112	205	317
Wholesale shops, warehouses	...	40	36	76
Catering Establishments open to the public, canteens	...	19	23	42
		<u>385</u>	<u>503</u>	<u>888</u>

Result of Inspections – 1966.

Premises	No. of inspections	No. found satisfactory	No. found unsatisfactory	Unsatisfactory conditions remedied	No. of contraventions involved
Offices	25	6	19	7	51
Retail shops	33	6	27	18	65
Catering establishments	3	1	2	—	3
Warehouses	2	1	1	—	3
Fuel storage depots.	—	—	—	—	—
	63	14	49	25	122

Analysis of Contraventions.

Premises	Heat- ing	No Ther- mometers	Venti- lation	Light- ing	Sanitary Conven- iences	Washing Facili- ties	Drink- ing water
Offices	2	13	2	2	1	3	—
Retail shops	—	16	4	1	—	2	—
Catering establishments	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Warehouses	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
	2	30	6	3	1	5	—

Premises	Cloth- ing Accomm.	Seating Facili- ties	Eating Facili- ties	First Aid	Over crowd- ing	Clean- liness	Defec- tive Floors
Offices	1	—	—	8	1	—	—
Retail shops	—	—	—	13	—	1	2
Catering establishments	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Warehouses	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
	1	—	—	23	1	1	2

Premises	Defective Stairways	Abstract not provided
Offices	—	18
Retail shops	1	25
Catering establishments	—	2
Warehouses	—	1
	1	46

Number of applications for exemption received during the year Nil
 Prosecutions made during the year Nil
 Number of Inspectors appointed under the Act 3
 Other staff engaged for most of their time on work in connec-
 tion with the Act Nil

Shops Act, 1950.

No complaints were received concerning any contraventions. While inspecting the various shop premises in connection with their other duties, the Inspectors have paid special attention to the few cases where young persons were found to be employed. No contraventions were found.

ADMINISTRATION OF THE FACTORIES ACTS.

1. – Inspections for the purposes of provisions as to health.

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of		
		Inspections (3)	Written notices (4)	Occupiers prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be en- forced by Local Authorities	1	1	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	63	72	4	—
(iii) Other premises in which Sec- tion 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out - workers' premises).. ..	8	24	—	—
TOTAL	72	97	4	—

2. – Cases in which defects were found.

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prose- cutions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	To H.M. Inspector (4)	By H.M. Inspector (5)	
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) insufficient	—	1	—	—	—
(b) unsuitable or defective	6	7	2	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offence re- lating to Outwork)	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	6	8	2	—	—

3 – Outworkers.

Section 133 (1). No copies of lists showing outworkers employed were received from employers in the district during the year.

Section 133 (2). Notifications were received from other Authorities concerning 21 outworkers who are employed in this district.

Section 134. No outworkers were found to be working in unwholesome premises, or suffering from infectious disease.

There was no material change in the number of premises on the register of factories. All premises have been visited at least once during the year, and the few minor contraventions found were remedied without the need for any formal action.

MISCELLANEOUS

Disinfection.

Twelve premises were disinfected, including seven wards at the Bushey & District Hospital.

Noise Abatement Act, 1960.

Only one complaint was received. The principal complainant referred to high pitched noises in the late evening and night. Although instruments have been used it was not possible to isolate this noise from the background level, but investigations were continuing at the end of the year.

Rag Flock and other Filling Materials Act, 1951.

Only one establishment is registered in the district, where a large number of car seats are made.

Pet Animals Act, 1951.

Three licences were issued concerning two premises. Eleven inspections were made and no contraventions reported.

Animal Boarding Establishments Act, 1963.

On the 31st December six licences were in force, the kennel accommodation available being for 450 dogs and 112 cats. Each of the premises have been visited by the Council's Veterinary Surgeon at least once during the year, and by the Council's Public Health Inspectors on a number of occasions.

In his annual report the Council's Veterinary Surgeon stated that this year his observations would be of a very general nature. This is because he felt that after three years it was now possible to assess the situation much more generally. He states that on the whole there has been remarkable co-operation from the kennel owners in this area, often when least expected, and the reception given him and the Council's Inspectors has helped considerably. He feels that, although there are many problems ahead, the general standard here is now much higher than in some other areas, where there has possibly not been the co-operation between the kennel owners and the Council's staff. He suggests that our approach from now on should be one of maintaining the standards gained, and keeping up the rate of improvement in those kennels which are still lagging behind.

Riding Establishments Act, 1964.

Three licences were issued during the year but one establishment closed in September. Regular visits were made by the Council's Veterinary Surgeon and the Public Health Inspectors. There were no contraventions of the licences reported.

Scrap Metal Dealers Act, 1964.

As reported in 1965 the Metropolitan Police have been consulted, with a view to implementing Section 3 of the Act regarding the type of records to be kept by itinerant dealers. The Police Authority recommended that this section should be implemented and in due course the Council took the necessary action. At the end of the year four persons who have premises situated in the district were on the register, while there were twenty-five itinerant traders on the register.

Home Safety.

Once again it was possible to stage a small exhibition at the Annual Horticultural Society's Summer Show. From time to time throughout the year, suitable pamphlets have been made available concerning the various facets of home safety.

CHORLEYWOOD URBAN DISTRICT

Members of the Public Health Committee (from April, 1966): Councillor J. M. ELLIS, (*Chairman*); Councillor N. P. CUTCLIFFE, Councillor J. J. ELLIS, *J.P.*, Councillor C. M. LEWIS, Councillor Lady LEWIS, Councillor H. A. MACDONALD, Councillor R. G. SIRETT, Councillor W. THOMAS.

Senior Public Health Inspector (and Surveyor) – W. E. HANDS. *Cert. Royal Sanitary Institute and Sanitary Inspectors Joint Board. Cert. Inspn. of Meat and other Foods.*

Public Health Inspector (and Deputy Surveyor) – A. YOUNG. *Cert. P.H.I.E.B. Cert. Inspection of Meat and other Foods.*

General

Area of District (land and inland water), 2,055 acres.

Highest Point – Near water tower at the Swillett, 410.6 ft.

Lowest Point – Junction of Meadow Way and Belfry Lane, 160.3 ft.

Dwellings and Rateable Value. (31st March, 1967.)

<i>Number of Separate Dwellings</i>	<i>Rateable Value</i>	<i>Product (est.) of Penny Rate</i>
2,432	£474,134	£1,910

Population. (Registrar General's estimates for mid-year.)

1966	1965	1964	1963	1951	1939
7,670	7,590	7,420	7,100	4,480	3,775

Birth Rate. Live births per 1,000 of population: (Comparability Factor 1.05).

1966	1965	1964	1963	1951	1939
10.8	11.62	15.42	11.1	12.5	9.0

Classification of Births:

Total live births	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	78
Illegitimate live births	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Stillbirths	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1

Still Birth Rate. (Per 1,000 total, live and still, births.)

1966	1965	1964	1963	1951	1939
12.82	24.39	9.26	13.3	12.2	55.9

Illegitimate Birth Rate. (Per cent live births.)

1966	1965	1964	1963	1951	1939
5.12	1.2	4.6	4.0	—	2.9

NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES

INCIDENCE according to AGE and SEX during 1966.

AGE GROUPS	Measles		Whooping Cough		Other Notifiable Diseases		
	M	F	M	F		M	F
0 – 1	–	1	–	1	Infective Hepatitis	1	
1 – 2	13	4	–	1			
3 – 4	10	12	–	2			
5 – 9	26	29	2	–			
10 – 14	–	–	–	–			
15 – 24	–	1	–	–			
25 and over ..	–	–	–	–			
TOTALS	49	47	2	4		1	–

No cases of the following notifiable diseases occurred:
Acute Poliomyelitis: paralytic and non-paralytic. Meningococcal infection.
Acute Pneumonia. Scarlet fever. Diphtheria. Smallpox. Acute Encephalitis:
infective, post-infectious. Typhoid and Paratyphoid. Puerperal pyrexia. Oph-
thalmia neonatorum. Plague. Malaria. Cholera. Relapsing fever. Typhus fever.
Tuberculosis: respiratory, other, meninges and C.N.C. Dysentery. Food poisoning.

Month of occurrence	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Measles	–	1	3	1	–	6	54	23	–	–	–	8
Infective Hepatitis	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–
Whooping Cough	–	–	–	–	–	3	3	–	–	–	–	–

Deaths. 51 persons died during the year.

Death Rate per 1000 of population (Comparability Factor 1.13).

1966	1965	1964	1963	1951	1939
7.5	9.01	6.8	9.1	8.5	9.6

Infantile Mortality Rate.

(Number of deaths under age of 1 year per 1,000 live births):

1966	1965	1964	1963	1951	1939
25.6	24.4	27.8	0	0	29

Classification of Infant Deaths:

			Under Age of 1 week		Under Age of 4 weeks		Under Age of 1 year	
			M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Total	...	...	0	0	1	0	1	1

CAUSES OF DEATH AT DIFFERENT PERIODS OF LIFE DURING 1966

Code No.	Cause of Death	Sex	AGE IN YEARS				75 and over
			Total all ages	Under 4 weeks	Under and under 1 year	1- 5- 15- 25- 35- 45- 55- 65-	
9	Other infectious and parasitic diseases	M	-	-	-	-	-
		F	1	-	-	-	-
11	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	M	1	-	-	-	1
		F	1	-	-	-	-
12	Malignant neoplasm, breast	F	1	-	-	-	1
14	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	M	4	-	-	-	-
		F	3	-	-	-	-
17	Vascular lesions of nervous systems	M	3	-	-	-	-
		F	3	-	-	-	-
18	Coronary disease, angina	M	8	-	-	-	5
		F	2	-	-	-	-
19	Hypertension with heart disease	M	3	-	-	-	-
		F	-	-	-	-	-
20	Other heart disease	M	1	-	-	-	-
		F	3	-	1	-	-
21	Other circulatory disease	M	1	-	-	-	1
		F	1	-	-	-	-
23	Pneumonia	M	1	-	-	-	-
		F	1	-	-	-	-
24	Bronchitis	M	2	-	-	-	-
		F	2	-	-	-	-
25	Other diseases of respiratory system	M	1	-	-	-	1
		F	-	-	-	-	-
27	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	M	-	-	-	-	-
		F	2	-	-	-	-
28	Nephritis and nephrosis	M	1	-	-	-	-
		F	-	-	-	-	-
32	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	M	1	1	-	-	-
		F	1	-	-	-	-
33	Motor vehicle accidents	M	-	-	-	-	-
		F	1	-	-	1	-
34	All other accidents	M	1	-	-	-	-
		F	1	-	-	-	-
TOTAL ALL CAUSES			M 28 F 23	1 -	- 1	- 1	1 3 1 4 8 14 2 1 1 2

HOUSING CONDITIONS

1. Inspection of Dwelling Houses.

a, Total number of houses inspected (Public Health or Housing Acts)	48
b, Number of inspections made for the purpose	103

2. Action Taken.

a, Clearance Areas declared... ..	0
b, Unfit houses included in a, above	0
c, Individual houses demolished	0
d, Individual houses closed	0
e, Parts of buildings closed	0
f, Dwellings rendered fit after:—	
i, Informal action	15
ii, Formal action	0

3. Overcrowding.

a, Cases brought forward from previous year	0
b, Premises found to be overcrowded during the year	0
c, Cases of overcrowding abated	0

4. Certificates of Disrepair.

a, Certificates of Disrepair, issued	0
b, Certificates of Disrepair, cancelled	0
c, Certificates of Disrepair, proposed to issue	0

5. Improvement Grants.

a, Applications made	6
b, Grants made, "Standard" 2, "Discretionary" 1	3

6. Number of Houses and Flats Erected During the Year.

a, By the Local Authority	0
b, By other Authorities and Organisations	0
c, By private persons	68

WATER SUPPLY

The water supply of the District is provided by the Rickmansworth and Uxbridge Valley Water Company. Three samples were submitted for examination, two of these samples were satisfactory, the third sample, where the domestic supply was via a storage cistern was not satisfactory. In this latter case the distribution system was overhauled and the storage cistern replaced, since when further samples have proved satisfactory.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

Public Conveniences.

The Council provides public conveniences for Men and Women on Road A.404 opposite Chorleywood Common; it is to be regretted that in order to reduce vandalism it has been found necessary to close these conveniences at dusk.

Dwellings not connected to the Public Sewer.

There are 41 properties in the District which are not connected to the public sewer.

The sewer is physically available to serve 14 of these properties, 7 properties are drained by small scale sewage disposal plants and the remaining 20 properties cannot at the moment be connected to the sewer.

During the year under review one house which had previously been drained to a cesspool was connected to the sewer.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

Refuse Collection.

Refuse collection is carried out by direct labour. Two vehicles were in use during the year, both 18 cu. yds. dual tip vehicles. Six men maintain a 7-day collection service. A bonus scheme is operated by the Council.

Disposal is by means of controlled tipping at a tip situated at Wapseys Wood Pit, Gerrards Cross. In co-operation with the Amersham Rural District Council, all refuse is dumped in the first instance at their London Road Depot and is then conveyed by means of bulk transporters to the Gerrards Cross tip.

Bulky Litter Collection.

A heavy litter collection has been in operation for the past four years. The object of this service is to give facilities to householders to get rid of accumulations of heavy litter. This service is free and is operated by the normal refuse collection staff on Saturday mornings; it is a "Special Service" and not more than one collection is made from any one property during the year. There is a great demand for the "Service" and it appears to be greatly appreciated by the ratepayers.

In spite of the "Special Collection", bulky refuse is still being dumped on open spaces and in hedgerows in the district. Offenders are difficult to trace, but if all Local Authorities would give their ratepayers similar facilities for removing bulky refuse the problem would be greatly reduced.

FOOD HYGIENE

Slaughtering and Meat Inspection .

No animals were slaughtered in the District during the year under review.

Sampling.

Chorleywood Urban District Council is not a Food and Drugs Authority. Routine sampling was carried out by the County Council as follows:-

<i>Milk Samples</i>	20	All Genuine
<i>Other Foods</i>	Miscogen, Butter Madeira Cake, Orchard Fruit Jellies, Pineapple Juice, Ginger Crush, Pure Lard, Apples, Pork Sausages (Meat content 66%).	
		All Genuine

Food Premises

Routine inspections were continued of food premises in the District and every effort was made to encourage food handlers to maintain care in their work.

The following table sets out the number and type of food premises in the district, together with the number of inspections made :-

Type of business	Number in District	Number of inspections made
Bakehouses	1	2
Butchers	3	6
Canteens, Factory.. ..	1	2
Canteens, School	4	7
Fishmongers	1	2
Grocers Retail	5	9
Hotels and Guest Houses	1	2
Public Houses	7	7
Licensed Clubs	3	2
Miscellaneous Premises (sweets, etc.)	4	4

Ice Cream.

There are no premises registered for the manufacture of ice cream. Nine premises are registered for the sale of wrapped ice cream only.

Two samples of ice cream were submitted for examination and both found satisfactory.

RODENT CONTROL

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.

	Local Authority Depots, etc.	Dwelling Houses	Agri- cultural	All other incl. Business & Industry	Total
1. Total No. of properties in L.A.'s district	5	2419	13	263	2700
2. No. of properties inspected by L.A. as a result					
a, of notification	a, —	55	—	2	57
b, otherwise	b, 5	—	3	27	35
3. No. of properties (under 2) found to be infected by rats					
a, Major	a, —	—	—	—	—
b, Minor	b, —	51	—	2	53
4. No. of properties (under 2) found to be infested by mice					
a, Major	a, —	—	—	—	—
b, Minor	b, —	—	—	—	—
5. No. of infested properties (under 3 & 4) treated by the L.A.	—	51	—	2	53
6. No. of notices served under Section 4 for					
a, Treatment	a, —	—	—	—	—
b, Structural Works	b, —	—	—	—	—

7. Number of cases in which default action was taken by L.A. following issue of notice under S.4 — 0.

8. Legal Proceedings — 0.

9. Number of "block control" schemes carried out — 0.

Thirty-four complaints were received regarding wasps and thirty-four nests were destroyed.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

Below is given an analysis of the annual return of premises registered by the L.A. under the Act:-

Type of premises registered	No. of premises	No. of persons employed	No. of inspections
Offices	11	73	6
Retail Shops	23	65	8
Wholesale Shops and Warehouses	—	—	—
Catering Establishments open to the public, Canteens	2	20	1
Fuel Storage Depots	—	—	—

No accidents were notified to the Local Authority during the year.

ADMINISTRATION OF THE FACTORIES ACT, 1961**1. Inspections for the purposes of provisions as to health.**

Premises (1)	Number on Register (3)	Number of		
		Inspections (4)	Written notices (5)	Occupiers prosecuted (6)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by L.A.	1	1	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the L.A.	16	16	—	—
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the L.A. (excluding outworkers' premises)	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	17	17	—	—

2. Cases in which defects were found: *nil*.

3. Outworkers, S.110(i)(c):— Number, 3. Notices, etc.: *nil*.

RICKMANSWORTH URBAN DISTRICT

Members of the Housing and Public Health Committee (from April, 1966):
 Councillor A. W. HAUCK, (Chairman); Councillor Mrs. E. M. BEESLEY,
 Councillor S. C. DAVIES, Councillor W. FALCON, Councillor R. C.
 FENTON, O.B.E.; Councillor W. FOULSHAM, O.B.E., M.C.; Councillor
 E. W. HARRIS, Councillor G. THOMAS, Councillor N. C. YOUNG.

*Chief Public Health Inspector—C. R. ALEXANDER. Cert. Royal Sanitary
 Institute and Sanitary Inspectors Joint Board. Cert. Inspn. of Meat and
 other Foods.*

*Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector—F. KEENE. Cert. S.I.J.B., Cert.
 Inspn. Meat and other Foods. Cert. Smoke Inspn.*

*Public Health Inspector—W. HUMBER. Cert. S.I.J.B., Cert. Inspection of
 Meat and other Foods.*

General.

Area (land and inland water), 7,639 acres.

Highest—Long Lane at junction with Chorleywood boundary: 410 ft.

Lowest Point—Bucks, County Boundary on A.412: 130 ft.

Dwellings and Rateable Value. (31st March, 1967.)

<i>Number of Separate Dwellings</i>	<i>Rateable Value</i>	<i>Product (est.) of Penny Rate</i>
9,546	£2,210,367	£8,888

Population (Resistrar General's estimates at mid-year).

1966	1965	1964	1963	1951	1939
30,290	30,270	30,130	29,690	25,310	19,930

Birth Rate. (Live births per 1,000 of population): (Comparability Factor 1.07).

1966	1965	1964	1963	1951	1939
16.1	16.12	16.6	16.2	13.6	18.8

Classification of Births:

Total live births	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	455
Illegitimate live births	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16
Stillbirths	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2

Still Birth Rate. Still births per 1,000 total (live and still) births:

1966	1965	1964	1963	1951	1939
4.40	15.59	13.0	8.9	28.2	44.5

Illegitimate Birth Rate. (Per cent live births.)

1966	1965	1964	1963	1951	1939
3.5	4.0	4.3	2.2	0	1.8

Code No.	Cause of death	Sex	Total all ages	Under 4 weeks	and under 1 year	1-	5-	15-	25-	35-	45-	55-	65-	75 and over
1	Tuberculosis, respiratory	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
3	Syphilitic Disease	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
11	Malignant neoplasm, lung bronchus	M	13	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	6	3	2
12	Malignant neoplasm, breast	F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
13	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	M	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	2	-	-
14	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	F	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	1	-	-
15	Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	M	16	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	3	2	5	5
16	Diabetes	F	11	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	2	2	4
17	Vascular lesions of nervous systems	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
18	Coronary disease, angina	F	11	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	4	2	4
19	Hypertension with heart disease	M	15	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	5	6	10	9
20	Other heart disease	F	31	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	2	9
21	Other circulatory disease	M	25	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	2	21
22	Influenza	F	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	3
23	Pneumonia	M	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
24	Bronchitis	F	15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	4	11
25	Other diseases of respiratory system	M	16	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	3	1	5
26	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	F	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
27	Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-
28	Nephritis and Nephrosis	M	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	2
29	Hyperplasia of prostate	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
31	Congenital malformations	M	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
32	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	F	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1
33	Motor vehicle accidents	M	15	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	2	6
34	All other accidents	F	4	-	-	-	1	1	-	1	-	-	1	-
35	Suicide	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL ALL CAUSES			131	2	2	-	2	1	2	4	10	26	37	45
			131	5	-	-	1	-	-	3	15	16	15	76

NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES

INCIDENCE according to AGE and SEX during 1966

AGE GROUPS	Whooping Cough		Measles		Other notifiable diseases		
	M	F	M	F		M	F
0-1	—	—	1	1	Infective Hepatitis	—	2
1-2	2	—	6	12			
3-4	1	5	23	20			
5-9	—	2	34	33			
10-14	—	—	2	—			
15-24	—	—	1	—			
25 and over ..	—	—	—	—			
TOTALS	3	7	67	66			2

AGE GROUPS	Paratyphoid		Erysipelas		Food Poisoning		Tuberculosis respiratory	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0-4	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
5-14	—	—	—	—	5	—	—	—
15-44	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
45-64	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
65 and over ..	—	2	—	—	—	—	1	—
TOTALS ..	—	2	—	1	5	1	2	—

No cases of the following notifiable diseases occurred:

Acute Poliomyelitis: paralytic, non-paralytic. Diphtheria. Smallpox. Typhoid. Cholera. Malaria. Plague. Relapsing fever. Typhus fever. Acute Encephalitis: infective, post-infectious. Meningococcal infection. Ophthalmia neonatorum. Puerperal Pyrexia. Tuberculosis: meninges and C.N.S., other. Dysentery. Scarlet fever. Acute Pneumonia.

Month of occurrence	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Whooping Cough	8	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	9	—	2	—	1	6	14	9	—	—	16	76
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Paratyphoid	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
Food poisoning	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	5	—
Tuberculosis respiratory	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Infective hepatitis	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1

Deaths. 262 persons died during the year.

Death Rate per 1,000 of population (Comparability Factor 1.19).

1966	1965	1964	1963	1951	1939
10.3	10.89	9.9	11.5	9.1	8.5

Infantile Mortality Rate. (Number of deaths under age of 1 year per 1,000 live births):

1966	1965	1964	1963	1951	1939
19.8	15.59	19.6	13.4	14	32

Classification of Infant Deaths:

			Under Age of 1 week		Under Age of 4 weeks		Under Age of 1 year	
			M	F	M	F	M	F
Total	...	...	2	5	2	5	3	5

REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR
HOUSING CONDITIONS

1. **Inspection of Dwelling Houses.**

a,	Total number of houses inspected (Public Health or Housing Acts)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	56
b,	Number of inspections made for the purpose	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	147

2. **Action Taken.**

a,	Clearance Areas declared	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
b,	Unfit houses included in a, above	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
c,	Individual houses demolished	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	32
d,	Individual houses closed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
e,	Parts of buildings closed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
f,	Dwellings rendered fit after:-								
	i, Informal action	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	41
	ii, Formal action	...	...	...	{ Public Health Act, 1936 Housing Act, 1957		1936		6 1

3. **Improvement Grants.**

a,	Applications	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	15
b,	Schemes Completed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	17

4. **Number of Houses and Flats erected during the year.**

a,	By the Local Authority	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	126
b,	By other Authorities and Organisations	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
c,	By private persons	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	78

Caravan Sites.

There are 5 small sites with 10 caravans. There is also a larger site with residential and showmen's caravans, there being 6 of the former all the year round and an additional 10 of the latter during the winter months.

There is now only one Council owned site which as a result of running-down now has only one caravan.

Legal proceedings were taken against the occupier of land for permitting its use by caravans without a site licence. Fine £20 and 2 gns. costs.

Unfit Houses.

At the end of the year there were only two houses remaining to be dealt with of the 243 in the slum clearance scheme of 1953. A summary of resultant action is appended below :-

Demolished	...	...	...	...	...	160
Closed	...	...	...	...	...	5
Awaiting demolition (occupied)	...	...	...	...	...	0
Awaiting demolition (unoccupied)	...	...	...	...	...	4
Repaired	...	...	...	...	...	72
No action	...	...	...	...	...	2
						<hr/> 243 <hr/>

During the same period action was taken in respect of 41 additional houses with the following results :-

Demolished	...	...	...	...	...	27
Closed	...	...	...	...	...	4
Repaired	...	...	...	...	...	6
Awaiting demolition (unoccupied)	...	...	...	...	...	4
						<hr/> 41 <hr/>

WATER SUPPLY**Domestic Supply.**

There is a satisfactory supply of wholesome water throughout the Urban District both in quality and quantity. No bacteriological samples were taken from the raw water pumped by the two utility companies serving the Urban District, but there is a close liaison with these companies who take samples from the pumping stations sometimes as frequently as once a day. 11 samples taken from domestic consumers during the year were satisfactory.

No chemical analysis were carried out during the year but information was supplied by the two utility companies of their tests. The fluoride content in the raw water in no case exceeded 1ppm. No fluoride is added.

With two exceptions all dwelling houses in the Urban District are supplied by direct mains.

Swimming Pools.

There are swimming pools at The Royal Masonic Institute for Girls, Merchant Taylors' School, Beaumont House School and Juniper Hill School.

Twelve samples were taken of which only 2 were unsatisfactory from one school. The two unsatisfactory samples were due to failure to change the swimming pool water at sufficiently frequent intervals. Following thorough cleaning of the pool, follow-up samples were entirely satisfactory.

DRAINAGE

While there are a number of cesspools and septic tanks on the perimeter of the district where sewerage facilities are not available, no serious difficulties were encountered with them.

The sewerage arrangements are satisfactory while the disposal is efficiently carried out by the West Hertfordshire Main Drainage Authority.

Public Conveniences.

There are two public conveniences, one at Bury Lane, Rickmansworth and one at Baldwins Lane, Croxley Green. In addition to these there are conveniences at the five recreation grounds controlled by the Council, but these are only available whilst the grounds are open.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

Refuse Collection.

The collection and disposal of refuse is under the control of the Engineer & Surveyor. A satisfactory weekly collection is maintained using modern refuse collection vehicles.

The refuse is disposed of at a private tip outside the Urban District.

Bulky Articles.

The Council arranges for a special collection of bulky articles, usually on Saturday mornings and at quite a reasonable charge. The Council removes dis-used motor vehicles and transports them to a central depot outside the Urban District.

FOOD HYGIENE

Food Condemned.

4 tons; 9 cwt; 49 lbs.

Milk Supply.

Number of persons registered as Distributors	...	...	...	...	24
Number of premises registered as Dairies	...	...	...	...	2
Number of Dealer's (Pasteurisers) Licences	...	...	...	...	1
Number of Dealer's (pre-packed) Milk Licences :-					
Pasteurised	...	...	...	...	23
Sterilised	...	...	...	...	9
Untreated	...	...	...	...	4
Ultra-Heat treated	...	...	...	...	2
Inspection of Dairies and Milk Shops	...	...	...	...	48
Notices: Served and complied 1.					

Milk Samples.

	Taken	Failures
Pasteurised	14	—

The sole pasteurising dairy was again regularly inspected during the year. There were no plant sample failures.

Slaughterhouses.

No regular slaughtering takes place within the District. No notice of any occasional slaughtering was received during the past year.

Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960.

The following table sets out the numbers and types of food premises in the district and the numbers of inspections made :-

Type of premises	Nos.	Nos. registered under the Food & Drugs Act	Inspections	Hand washing facilities fitted	Equipment/ washing facilities	
					Required	Fitted
Bakehouses	1	—	2	2	2	2
Bread & Pastry Purveyors	12	2	23	12	8	8
Butchers	19	8	49	19	19	19
Confectioners	34	—	43	31	15	16
Fishmongers	5	—	9	5	5	5
Fish Fryers	5	5	22	5	5	5
Greengrocers	31	—	59	29	20	23
Grocers	35	3	84	40	30	31
Ice-Cream Purveyors ..	51	51	43	44	1	1
Licensed Premises ..	48	—	91	48	48	48
Dairies	2	2	10	2	2	2
Milk Distributors (bottled)	24	24	30	22	—	22
Hotels & Guest Houses ..	4	—	7	4	4	4
Restaurants and Cafes ..	28	—	67	28	28	28
Canteens (factory).. ..	15	—	28	15	15	15
Canteens (school).. ..	17	—	40	17	17	17
Mobile Shops (bases) ..	12	—	22	—	—	—

The work of maintaining and improving hygienic conditions in food premises has continued. The following figures indicate the remedial work carried out by informal action :-

Personal Cleanliness	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Sanitary Conveniences									
a, Insufficient	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
b, Defective/dirty	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	17
Premises									
a, Dirty	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	27
b, Defective/dirty	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	20
Washing Facilities									
a, Insufficient	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	14
b, Defective/dirty	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13
Equipment									
a, Insufficient	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
b, Defective and/or insufficient	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Ice-Cream.									

There are no manufacturers of ice-cream in the district but 51 premises were registered for storage and sale.

Nine samples of hard ice-cream were taken for bacteriological examination, with the following results :-

No. of Samples	Grading
6	I
1	II
2	III
0	IV

Legal proceedings were taken against one mobile ice-cream trader for a contravention of Regulation 28 of the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960. Convicted and fined £15 plus costs.

Food & Drugs Act, 1955.

Samples of the following were submitted to the public analyst:-

	Formal	Informal	Result
Almond Marzipan	—	1	Satisfactory
Asprin	—	1	"
Babyfood	—	2	{ Satisfactory* Unsatisfactory*
Batter Mixture	—	1	Satisfactory
Bicarbonate of Soda	—	1	"
Branston Pickle	—	1	"
Bread	—	2	Unsatisfactory*
Butter	—	1	Satisfactory
Butter Beans	—	1	"
Butter Sponge	—	1	"
Cheese	—	1	"
Cheese Puffs	—	1	"
Chicken Stock Cubes	—	1	"
Chopped Chicken in Jelly	—	1	"
Cocktail Prawns	—	1	"
Corn Oil Margarine	—	1	"
Cough Syrup	—	1	"
Crab Spread	—	1	"
Cream	—	5	"
Cream Cakes	—	2	"
Crisps	—	1	Unsatisfactory*
Curry Powder	—	1	Satisfactory
Dairy Cream Buns	—	1	"
Drinking Chocolate	—	1	"
Essence of Rennett	—	2	"
Eucalyptus Oil	—	1	"
Fillets of Chicken	—	1	"
Gin	2	—	"
Ginger	—	1	"
Glycerine	—	1	"
Honey	—	1	"
Ice-Cream Mix	—	1	"
Iced Lolly	—	1	"
Jam	—	1	"
Lemon Juice	—	1	"
Marzipan	—	1	"
Meloids	—	1	"
Mint Flakes	—	1	"
Mixed Cake Fruit	—	1	"
Mixed Fruit	—	1	"
Mixed Vegetables Dried	—	1	"
Mixed Peel	—	1	"
Mushroom Cubes	—	1	"
Pie Filling	—	1	"
Sage & Onion Stuffing	—	1	"
Sardines	—	2	"
Sausages, Pork	—	6	{ 5 Satisfactory 1 Unsatisfactory
Seed Pearl Tapioca	—	1	Satisfactory
Soft Herring Roes	—	1	"
Soup.. .. .	—	3	"
Sore Mouth Pastilles	—	1	"
Sparkling Fling	—	1	"
Spinach Frozen	1	—	Unsatisfactory*
Sweets	1	3	Satisfactory
Sweets, part of	—	1	Unsatisfactory*
Tea	—	1	Satisfactory
Tit-Bits Sauce	—	1	"
Tomato Puree	—	2	"
Whisky	2	—	"
Yoghourt	—	1	"

* Indicates that the sample was submitted following a complaint.

Unsatisfactory Food:

Sliced Loaf	Oil with iron trace. Prosecution.
Crisps	Vegetable oil formed into grey paste. No formal action.
Boiled Sweet	Containing bristle. Warning letter to manufacturers.
Pork Sausage	No declaration of preservatives. No formal action.
Frozen Spinach	Containing withered vegetable tissue. No formal action.
Bread	Particles of charred dough. No formal action.
Babyfood	Containing pea weevil. Prosecution.
Babyfood	Containing vegetable tissue/meat fibre. No formal action.

Complaints made by the public:

(a) resulting in prosecution:-

Beetle in frozen peas	£20
Mouldy sliced/cooked pork	£20
Mouldy bread	£15
Wire in bread	£20
Oil with iron trace in bread	£25
Cigarette end in loaf	£20
Unfit meat	£25
Glass in milk bottle	£20
Mouldy apple strudels	£25
Mouldy sandwich cake	£25
Mouldy loaf of bread	£15
Slicer blade in loaf	£25

(b) without prosecution:-

Butter	Genuine
Tea	Genuine
Novelty "pink elephant" mineral water ...	Genuine

(c) pending prosecution:-

Babyfood containing pea weevil.
Dirty milk bottle.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS

The work done during the year under the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949, is recorded in the following section.

Properties other than sewers	Non-Agricultural	Agricultural
1. No. of properties in district	10967	35
2. a, Total number of properties (including nearby premises) inspected following notification	223	—
b, Number infested by (i) Rats	203	—
(ii) Mice	14	—
3. Total number of properties inspected for rats/mice for reasons other than notification	38	16
Number infested by (i) Rats	—	—
(ii) Mice	—	—

Sewers.

Reported infested by rats :- *nil*.

Verminous Premises.

Several complaints from householders regarding ants, cluster flies, carpet beetles and garden insects were received and assistance given where possible.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

The two sites set up at the request of the Warren Spring Laboratory continued to be in operation during the year.

At the end of the year as a result of advice given by the department active steps were being taken by an industrial firm in the district to install modern automatic plant to deal with a nuisance from smoke and fly ash. It is hoped that in the early part of 1967 this problem will be overcome.

OFFICES AND SHOPS**Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963***Registration and General Inspections.*

	No. of premises registered during the year		Total number of registered premises at end of year		No. of registered premises receiving a general inspection during the year	
	1966	1965	1966	1965	1966	1965
Offices	8	10	80	85	53	47
Retail shops	19	14	206	208	124	87
Wholesale shops warehouses	—	—	1	1	1	—
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens	1	1	30	34	21	18

No. of Visits of all kinds by inspectors to registered premises:—

General Inspections 199

Reinspections 427

No. of persons employed

Offices	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,048
Retail Shops	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	844
Wholesale departments, warehouses	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	70
Catering establishments open to the public	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	139
Canteens	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7

Total (Males 789, Females 1,319)

2,108

Exemptions — Nil

Accidents reported — 1.

General Inspections The general inspections continued during the year and by the end all premises about which a form of notification of occupation had been received were inspected.

Registration Voluntary registration of premises is extremely unusual and in practically all cases new registrations are secured as a result of the observations of inspectors and action by the Department.

Lighting Despite the absence of lighting standards no special difficulties arose in securing an improvement in artificial lighting where the number of lumens per square foot was considered to be too low.

Heating The requirement to provide the minimum standard of heating in offices has presented no particular problem. On the other hand the requirement to provide heating in shops having any goods which might deteriorate received a severe setback as a result of a local magistrates' court decision, a summary of which is given below.

Legal Proceedings Legal proceedings were commenced at the end of 1965 respecting the lack of sanitary accommodation and washing facilities within a reasonable distance at a coal order office, i.e. 171 yards away. At the hearing in October, 1965 the magistrates adjourned the matter to give an opportunity for the defendants, the owners of the office and the Council to confer upon the matter but indicated that in their opinion the accommodation was not within a reasonable distance. As a result of the conference the owners decided to erect proper sanitary accommodation and washing facilities immediately at the rear of the office. At the adjourned hearing in February 1966 the magistrates convicted and fined the defendants three guineas and costs. The facilities were provided by the following June.

A second case related to a retail vegetable and fruit shop. The alleged offences related to (a) Section 6 (1) in not securing and maintaining a reasonable temperature in the shop (b) Section 6 (4) thermometer (c) Section 13 (1) sitting facilities (d) Section 24 (1) First Aid and (e) Section 50 (4) Information for employees. The magistrates decided that a temperature of 60.8°F would cause deterioration of the goods and dismissed this count and that under Section 6 (4). The occupier of the shop was found guilty of the other three offences and fined a total of £20 and costs.

Shops Act, 1950.

No. of Shops – 308

Inspections – 348

Notices Served – 44

Notices Complied – 22

No particular difficulties were experienced. This Act is now confined to hours of closing and employment.

ADMINISTRATION OF THE FACTORIES ACT, 1961.

1. – Inspections for the purposes of provisions as to health.

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of		
		Inspections (3)	Written notices (4)	Occupiers prospected (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	6	2	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	108	103	9	—
TOTALS	114	105	9	—

2. – Cases in which defects were found.

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	To H.M. Inspector (4)	By H.M. Inspector (5)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	1	1	–	–	–
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	–	–	–	–	–
Sanitary conveniences (S.7)					
(a) insufficient	–	1	–	–	–
(b) unsuitable or defective	11	7	–	–	–
Other offences (not including offences relating to Home-work)	–	–	–	–	–
TOTALS	12	9	–	–	–

3. – Outworkers

Factories in district employing outworkers outside the district:–
 No. of factories 1. No. of outworkers 476.
Factories in district employing outworkers inside the district:–
 No. of factories 1. No. of outworkers 9.
Factories outside district employing outworkers inside the district:–
 No. of factories 3. No. of outworkers 32.

ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT, 1963

Two such establishments operate in the district. Both are well kept and managed and no problems arose from them during the year.

METEOROLOGY

	1965			1966		
	Temperatures Min °C.	Max °C.	Rainfall	Temperatures Min °C.	Max °C.	Rainfall
January	–7	12	1.68 in.	–10	11	1.47 in.
February	–7	9	.43 in.	–2	12	3.62 in.
March	–11	22	1.85 in.	–6	14	.59 in.
April	–1	19	2.51 in.	–2	19	3.90 in.
May	–1	26	1.05 in.	1	26	2.46 in.
June	6	26	2.52 in.	2	29	2.55 in.
July	6	25	4.01 in.	6	29	3.14 in.
August	7	28	2.12 in.	6	28	5.17 in.
September	2	20	4.30 in.	3	23	.87 in.
October	–1	20	1.02 in.	1	19	5.71 in.
November	–8	13	3.02 in.	–3	10	1.76 in.
December	–10	12	4.26 in.	–7	11	2.55 in.
TOTALS			21.73 in.			33.79 in.

WATFORD RURAL DISTRICT

Members of the Public Health Committee (from April, 1966): Councillor E. H. NIMMO, J.P., (Chairman); Councillor Mrs. M. BAIN, O.B.E.; Councillor Mrs. P. C. BUTCHERS, Councillor J. BRIGHT, Councillor A. SHORT, J.P., Councillor F. W. WATERS, Councillor R. WEST, Councillor F. R. WILSON, Councillor R. W. WORTHY, J.P.

Chief Public Health Inspector – F. REEVE, Cert. S.I.J.B.

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector – J. CABOURNE, Cert. S.I.J.B., Cert. Inspn. Meat and other Foods, Cert. Smoke Inspn.

Public Health Inspectors – F. VALENTINE, Cert. S.I.J.B. Cert. Inspection of Meat and other Foods.

A. R. PRYKE, Cert. P.H.I.E.B. Cert. Inspn. of Meat and other Foods, Cert. Smoke Inspn. (Left 26th June, 1966.)

P. J. NAYLOR, Cert. P.H.I.E.B. Cert. Inspn. of Meat and other Foods. (Left 24th April, 1966.)

A. BEATON, Cert. Royal San. Asscn., Scotland, Inspn. of Meat and other Foods. (Commenced 5th September, 1966.)

P. M. ABLETT, Diploma P.H.I.E.B., Cert, Smoke Inspn. (Commenced 12th September, 1966.)

Cleansing Superintendent – B. F. KING.

General.

Area (land and inland water), 18,179 acres.

Civil Parishes – Abbots Langley, 5,558.9; Aldenham, 5,842; Sarratt, 4,587.4; Watford Rural, 2,190.7 acres.

Dwellings and Rateable Value. (31st March, 1967.)

Number of Separate Dwellings	Rateable Value	Product (est.) of Penny Rate
16,119	£1,783,091	£11,224

Population. (Registrar General's estimates for mid-year.)

1966	1965	1964	1963	1951	1939
60,970	60,910	60,810	60,000	40,150	20,280

Birth Rate. (Live births per 1,000 of population): Comparability Factor, 0.99.

1966	1965	1964	1963	1951	1939
11.33	12.08	13.0	13.5	17.0	13.9

Classification of Births:

Total live births	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	691
Illegitimate live births	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	51
Stillbirths	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7

Still Birth Rate. Still births per 1,000 total (live and still) births:

1966	1965	1964	1963	1951	1939
10.13	12.45	10.0	15.7	20.0	20.8

Illegitimate Birth Rate. (Per cent live births.)

1966	1965	1964	1963	1951	1939
7.3	7.9	9.7	6.9	0	4.2

Code No.	Cause of Death	Sex	Total all ages	4 weeks and under		AGE IN YEARS										75 and over
				Under 4 weeks	1 year	1-	5-	15-	25-	35-	45-	55-	65-			
9	Other infective and parasitic diseases	M	11	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
		F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
10	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	M	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	4	2		
		F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1		
11	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	8	3		
		F	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	2		
12	Malignant neoplasm, breast	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-		
		F	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	3		
13	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2		
14	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	M	20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	9		
		F	24	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	7	10		
15	Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
		F	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
16	Diabetes	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1		
		F	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	3		
17	Vascular lesions of nervous system	M	27	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	5	18		
		F	50	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	5	39		
18	Coronary disease, angina	M	53	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8	16	13		
		F	33	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	18		
19	Hypertension with heart disease	M	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1		
		F	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3		
20	Other heart disease	M	18	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	2	3	7		
		F	21	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	18		
21	Other circulatory disease	M	13	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	10		
		F	18	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	12		
22	Influenza	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1		
		F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
23	Pneumonia	M	38	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	2	6	6	15		
		F	34	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	2	7	21		
24	Bronchitis	M	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	5		
		F	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1		
25	Other diseases of respiratory system	M	4	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2		
		F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1		
26	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	M	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-		
		F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
27	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1		
		F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
28	Nephritis and nephrosis	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
		F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-		
29	Hyperplasia of prostate	M	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-		
31	Congenital malformations	M	3	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
		F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-		
32	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	M	19	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	4	2		
		F	27	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	2	4	13		
33	Motor vehicle accidents	M	9	-	-	2	-	4	-	-	2	2	-	-		
		F	5	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	2	-		
34	All other accidents	M	4	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	1	1		
		F	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	-	4		
35	Suicide	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
		F	5	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-		
TOTAL ALL CAUSES			262	7	3	4	3	8	2	5	27	53	61	89		
			266	2	-	1	2	3	3	13	15	38	37	152		

NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES
INCIDENCE according to AGE and SEX during 1966.

AGE GROUPS	Scarlet fever		Whooping cough		Measles			
	M	F	M	F	M	F		
0-1	—	—	1	—	3	1		
1-2	—	—	1	1	17	17		
3-4	—	—	2	2	19	32		
5-9	1	—	1	2	24	28		
10-14	1	—	1	1	—	1		
15-24	—	—	—	1	—	3		
25 and over ..	—	—	—	—	—	—		
TOTALS	2	—	6	7	63	82		

AGE GROUPS	Acute Pneumonia		Dysentery		Typhoid fever		Acute Encephalitis post-infective			
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F		
0-4	—	—	4	1	—	—	—	1		
5-14	—	—	100	3	—	—	—	—		
15-44	2	2	} 1	53	1	—	—	—		
45-64	—	1			—	—	—	—		
65 and over ..	—	—			—	—	—	—		
Age unknown ..	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—		
TOTALS	2	3	105	59	1	—	—	1		

AGE GROUPS	Food poisoning		Tuberculosis				Other Notifiable Diseases		
			Respiratory		Other				
	M	F	M	F	M	F		M	F
0 — 4	1	—	2	—	—	—	Infective Hepatitis	6	4
5 — 14	2	2	—	—	—	—			
15 — 44	2	3	4	1	2	—			
45 — 64	—	—	2	2	—	—			
65 and over ..	27	83	1	—	—	—			
Age unknown ..	—	—	—	1	—	—			
TOTALS (all ages)	32	88	9	4	2	—		6	4

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No cases of the following notifiable disease occurred:
Acute Poliomyelitis: paralytic, non-paralytic. Diphtheria. Smallpox. Acute Encephalitis: infective. Cholera. Plague. Relapsing fever. Typhus fever. Tuberculosis: meninges and C.N.S. Meningococcal infection. Paratyphoid fever. Puerperal pyrexia. Erysipelas. Ophthalmia Neonatorum. Malaria.

Notifiable Diseases (continued)

Month of Occurrence	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Scarlet fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—
Whooping cough	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	4	2	1	2
Measles	2	—	1	6	1	3	7	37	22	35	17	14
Tuberculosis respiratory	1	1	—	—	—	2	2	—	3	—	4	—
Tuberculosis, other	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	21	19	9	—	11	4	1	1	—	87	6	5
Infective hepatitis	2	2	2	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—
Acute pneumonia	—	2	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Typhoid fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Food poisoning	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	112	6	—
Encephatitis post-infectious	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—

Deaths. 528 persons died during the year.

Death Rate per 1,000 of population (Comparability Factor 1.14).

1966	1965	1964	1963	1951	1939
9.9	10.49	9.6	10.25	7.1	8.8

Infantile Mortality Rate. Number of deaths under age of 1 year per 1,000 live births.

1966	1965	1964	1963	1951	1939
17.4	12.45	13.7	21.8	29	56

Classification of Infant Deaths:

			Under Age of 1 week		Under Age of 4 weeks		Under Age of 1 year	
			M	F	M	F	M	F
Total	...	...	7	2	7	3	10	2

REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

HOUSING CONDITIONS

1. Inspection of Dwelling Houses.									
a,	Total number of houses inspected (Public Health and Housing Acts)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	376
b,	Number of inspections made for the purpose	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	639
2. Action Taken.									
a,	Clearance areas declared	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
b,	Unfit houses included in a, above	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
c,	Individual houses demolished	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
d,	Individual houses closed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
e,	Parts of buildings closed	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
f,	Dwellings rendered fit								
i.	Informal action	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	130
ii.	Formal action	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
3. Overcrowding.									
a,	Cases brought forward from previous year	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
b,	Premises found to be statutorily overcrowded during the year	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
c,	Cases of overcrowding abated	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
4. Certificates of Disrepair.									
a,	Certificates of Disrepair issued	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
b,	Undertakings given by landlord	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
c,	Certificates of Disrepair revoked	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
5. Improvement Grants.									
a,	Applications made for Discretionary Grants	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
b,	Grants approved	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
c,	Applications made for Standard Grants	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
d,	Grants approved	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
6. Number of Houses and Flats Erected During the Year.									
a,	By the Local Authority	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	65
b,	By other Authorities and Organisations	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0
c,	By private persons	...	...	...	...	...	Houses	141	
							Flats	16	
7. Licensed Caravan Sites.									
There are four large sites in the District:									
	Highview Caravan Park, Kings Langley	...	...	...	...	...	104 caravans		
	Newlands Caravan Site, Bedmond	...	...	...	...	...	60 caravans		
	Brookside, Eastbury Road, Oxhey	...	...	...	...	...	70 caravans		
	Langleyview Caravan Park, Abbots Langley	...	...	...	...	...	30 caravans		

Watford Rural District

There are also 15 small licensed sites accommodating 48 caravans and 7 other sites which are subject to Discontinuance Orders and are being run down.

Negotiations continued during the year with the owner of a site for 12 caravans with a view to its purchase by the Council.

WATER SUPPLY

Domestic Supply.

The majority of the district is served by a public mains supply, by the Colne Valley Water Company, the Rickmansworth and Uxbridge Valley Water Company, or, the Watford Corporation Water Undertaking.

The table below gives the approximate number of dwellings and population served by a mains supply direct to the premises or by a standpipe.

Parish	Mains supply direct to dwelling house		Mains supply by standpipe	
	No. of houses	Population	No. of houses	Population
Abbots Langley ..	4575	16575	15	52
Aldenham	3922	14987	3	10
Sarratt	859	3211	41	143
Watford Rural ..	6683	25831	—	—
TOTAL	16039	60604	59	205

No complaints were received during the year concerning the quality and quantity of the main supplies, all of which are chlorinated.

3 samples of mains water and 5 samples of well water were taken during the year for bacteriological examination, and all were reported on as being satisfactory for drinking and domestic purposes.

Swimming Pools.

There are no public swimming pools in the district. Two County Council Schools, viz; Fairfield at Radlett and Clarendon at South Oxhey, have their own swimming pools. Routine samples from these are taken by the by the County Council and the results were satisfactory.

A sample from a small private swimming pool was taken and was found to be satisfactory.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

Public Conveniences.

The Council have provided public conveniences at Watling Street, Radlett; Station Approach, South Oxhey; Oxhey Pavilion; and High Street, Abbots Langley.

In all these conveniences free hand washing facilities are available.

Dwellings not connected.

Number of dwellings not connected to a sewerage system at the end of the year, the system of sanitation being:-

Parish	Cesspool	Pail type closet
Abbots Langley	225	29
Aldenham	108	25
Sarratt	486	80
Watford Rural	21	'4
	840	138

General.

The Parishes of Abbots Langley, Aldenham and Watford Rural, and a small part of the Parish of Sarratt are served by main sewerage systems which discharge into the trunk sewers of the West Herts Main Drainage Authority. The major part of the Parish of Sarratt and outlying portions of the other Parishes are at present without main drainage.

The construction of the spine sewer for the Sarratt main drainage scheme was nearing completion at the end of the year. It is anticipated that the second stage of the Bedmond sewerage scheme will be commenced in 1967.

PUBLIC CLEANSING**Refuse Collection.**

This service is carried out by direct labour throughout the District. Ten refuse collection schedules are operated daily which ensures a weekly refuse collection service. Modern refuse collection vehicles mostly of the rear loading type are in use.

A Trade Refuse Collection Scheme is also in operation in respect of shop premises, and for which service an extra charge is made.

Bulky Refuse.

As a measure to combat the indiscriminate dumping of bulky items of house refuse in the form of mattresses, furniture, and old iron, etc. around the country lanes and open spaces, a free removal service is available, on request, to householders residing in the district. Increasing use of this service is being made but unfortunately dumping continues in the district, probably by persons who reside outside. Clearance of such deposits are made in collaboration with the County Highways Dept. from time to time.

The Council have provided litter bins at strategic points throughout the district and these are regularly emptied.

Abandoned and/or derelict vehicles continue to be a problem. The Council have arrangements to deal with unwanted vehicles surrendered to them by residents in the district.

Refuse Disposal.

The Council have two refuse disposal sites, one at Abbots Langley and one at Aldenham, where refuse is disposed of by controlling tipping.

The Council have acquired a disused gravel pit at Toms Lane, Bedmond, for refuse disposal purposes, and preliminary works are in hand in preparing it for use.

Cesspool Emptying.

The Council operate a cesspool emptying service throughout the district. This service is free, but the Council reserve the right to make a charge. One cesspool emptier is operated by direct labour, and the services of a contractor are also employed. Disposal of cesspool contents is by discharge into sewers.

Pail Closet Emptying.

This is undertaken by direct labour in the Parishes of Abbots Langley, Aldenham and Sarratt. Pail closets are emptied weekly, properly equipped vehicles being used for collection and disposal purposes.

FOOD HYGIENE

Food Condemned.

The following is a summary of food condemned during the year:

- 566 lbs. – Meat.
- 66 lbs. – Cooked Meat and Meat Products.
- 163 lbs. – Canned Meat.
- 8 lbs. – Canned Vegetables.
- 7 lbs. – Canned Fruit.
- 168 lbs. – Fish.
- 138 lbs. – Other Foodstuffs.

Slaughter Houses.

There are no licensed slaughterhouses in the district.

Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960.

Food Premises.

Type of premises	No. of premises	No. of premises fitted to comply with Reg. 16 (Wash hand basins)	No. of premises to which Reg. 19 applies. (Sinks)	No. of premises fitted to comply with Reg. 19 (Sinks)	No. of inspections made
Bakehouses	4	4	4	4	5
Bakers shops	13	13	6	6	13
Butchers	22	22	22	19	31
Confectioners	23	23	1	—	8
Factory canteens	14	14	14	13	13
Fishmongers	4	4	4	4	7
Fish fryers	4	3	3	3	10
Food manufacturers	1	1	1	1	4
Food warehouses	1	—	—	—	—
Greengrocers	18	18	18	18	15
Grocery shops	53	50	41	39	67
Licensed premises	40	40	40	40	18
Restaurants/cafes	12	12	12	12	33
School canteens	28	28	28	28	19
TOTALS	237	232	194	187	243

The following contraventions were remedied:—

Personal Cleanliness	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Sanitary conveniences									
a, Insufficient	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
b, Defective/Dirty	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6

Premises

a, Dirty condition	12
b, Defective conditions/Dirty	9

Washing Facilities

a, Insufficient	—
b, Defective/Dirty	4

Equipment

a, Dirty	3
b, Defective and/or insufficient	4

In no case where contraventions of the Regulations were found was it necessary to recommend the Council to consider taking legal proceedings.

Milk Supply.

There are 3 dairies and 18 distributors of milk registered in the district.

Ice Cream.

Number of premises registered :

a, For Manufacture	—
b, For Sale	80

Number of inspections (including Mobile Ice Cream Vans): 48.

During the year 9 samples of ice-cream were taken and submitted for laboratory examination with the following results:

Grade I	6	Grade II	2	Grade III	1	Grade IV	nil
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Food and Drugs Act, 1955.

During the year 27 complaints were received regarding the condition of food purchased. The articles of food involved were as follows :-

Bread 5; Cakes 2; Cheese 3; Milk 4; Cooked Meat 2; Sausage Rolls 1; Tinned Fruit 1; Dried Fruit 1; Canned Fish 1; Butter 1; Sweets 3; Potato Snips 1; Canned Beans 1; Vegetables 1.

Legal proceedings were instituted in respect of the following :-

Piece of wire in sweet	Penalty	£20 plus costs
Dirty milk bottle	"	£15 " "
Mould in bread	"	£20 " "
Brass bolt in can of beans	"	£20 " "

In all other cases the complaint was investigated and representations were made to the retailer and/or manufacturer.

In addition, samples of the undermentioned foods were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for examination for the presence of food poisoning organisms or for the physical examination of foreign matter :-

Potato Snips	No pathogens isolated
Bread	No faecal matter present
Potato Snips	Presence of oil globules and starch granules
Fried Fish	No pathogens isolated
Oriental Bone Meal	Presence of Salmonella Poona
Sausage	No pathogens isolated
Gravy Powder	No pathogens isolated
Bolero Chocolate	No pathogens isolated

<i>Milk</i>	117	Genuine
	<i>nil</i>	Not genuine

Other Foods	37	Genuine
	1	Not genuine

Not Genuine: Beef Sausage (meat content 43%. Deficient of meat 14%). Old established Butcher with unblemished record. Letter of caution to vendor by Clerk of County Council.

Rodent Control.

TYPE OF PROPERTY

58

A good deal of field work has been carried out by the Council's Rodent Operator using a form of self-charging watertight bait container which he has designed, based on a type used in Germany and illustrated in one of the Ministry's instructional films.

Bait containers of this type have been used with success in eliminating rat infestation of a fairly large factory making timber products, and as a semi-permanent control measure on agricultural premises and refuse tips.

The increase in the number of rodent infestations found on agricultural properties, as compared with previous years arose largely from intensified routine survey of this type of property.

Insect and other Pests.

Advice and assistance were given in respect of enquiries regarding infestation of premises by insects, and other pests. Ant infestation was a common complaint and others concerned flies, and beetles.

Practical assistance was given in dealing with wasps nests and a total of 124 were dealt with.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

During the year 43 smoke observations were carried out on factory chimneys, but in no case was any offence being committed.

Representations were made to one company concerning complaints which had been received of nuisance from smoke and grit.

OFFICES AND SHOPS

Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963.

This Act came into force during 1964, and the occupiers of premises in which it applies are required to register with the appropriate authority.

Registration and Inspection.

	No. of premises Reg. at end of year	No. of general inspections
Offices	40	33
Retail shops	217	104
Wholesale shops, warehouses	—	—
Catering establishments	21	18
Fuel storage depots	4	4
Total	282	159

Number of visits of all kinds: 382

Number of Employees:

Class of workplace	Number of persons employed
Offices	375
Retail shops	979
Wholesale departments, warehouses	—
Catering establishments open to the public	127
Canteens	—
Fuel storage depots	10
Total (males 579, females 912)	1,491

Registration.

During the year a further 20 premises were registered under Section 49 of the Act. The failure of occupiers of premises coming within the scope of the Act to apply for registration requires constant survey but compliance with this Section has, however, been readily forthcoming following informal

action, and in no case has it been necessary to consider instituting proceedings.

Plans of all new buildings submitted for Building Regulation and Planning approval and likely to come within the scope of the Act are referred to the Chief Public Health Inspector for his observations in connection with the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963. This has resulted in ensuring both immediate registration where necessary, and the compliance with the structural and other requirements of the Act in appropriate cases at the drawing board stage.

Enforcement of the Act.

The public health department is responsible for the enforcement of the Act within the Watford Rural District, most of the inspectorial work being carried out by three Public Health Inspectors. No special, additional staff are employed for this purpose.

No particular difficulties have been experienced in securing the co-operation of occupiers and others concerned in bringing premises up to the required standard.

Accidents.

Seven accidents at registered premises were reported and investigated during the year.

Four of these were directly concerned with the handling and stacking of goods at retail food premises. Yards and stockrooms of such premises are almost invariably small and congested, and female staff are frequently employed in stacking quite heavy food packs. Three female staff sustained injuries in these accidents, a boy of 16 years carrying a 24 lb. pack also sustaining injury so doing.

Two accidents occurred in connection with the cleaning and operation of bacon slicing machines, and these are commented on below.

The other accident occurred at a wholesale depot when a lorry driver's mate was alighting from his vehicle, the floor of the cab of which was 3' 6" above ground level.

Dangerous Machinery.

Two of the accidents referred to above related to food slicing machines and resulted in the severance of an index finger in both cases.

L.A. Circular 7 and its supplements have proved a valuable guide in this respect, but certain types of slicing machine can be potential hazard to the operator. In one case, the trained operator's index finger was severed whilst carrying out the recommended cleaning procedure on a machine of the hand operated horizontal feed type. In this instance a detailed report was submitted to the appropriate officer appointed under Section 57 of the Act, including suggested modifications to the machine's design to improve its safety features during the cleaning operation.

The other accident was directly attributable to the negligence of the operator in using the machine with the last slice guard removed. The food chute of this machine was, however, also inadequately guarded.

Since the accidents arising from the widespread use of food slicing machines are particularly serious, further research seems necessary into the safety of their design. Greater publicity might also be given to impress on both management and staff the need for adequate training of the operators of these machines.